MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA:

WITH

AN APPENDIX.

Vol. I.

A. D. 1864.

COLUMBIA:
STEAM-POWER PRESSES OF EVANS & COGSWELL.
1864.

INSTITUTIONS AND OFFICERS

OF THE

Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America.

CLERKS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Rev. John N. Waddel, D.D., *Stated Clerk*, Montgomery, Ala.
Rev. Joseph R. Wilson, D.D., *Permanent Clerk*, Augusta, Ga.

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R. M. Patten, John Whiting, James B. Walker, T. C. Perrin, Robert Adger, J. H. Lindsay, Samuel McCorkle, Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D., Joseph H. Wilson, Jesse A. Ansley, J. A. Crawford, J. A. Inglis, Rev. G. Howe, D.D., Rev. J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D., W. L. Mitchell.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D., *Secretary*, Columbia, S. C.
Rev. Prof. James Woodrow, *Treasurer*, " "

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D., *Secretary*, Columbia, S. C.
Rev. Prof. James Woodrow, *Treasurer*, " "

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION.

Rev. John Leyburn, D.D., *Secretary*, Richmond, Va.
James Miller, Esq., *Treasurer*, " "

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF EDUCATION.

Rev. John Leyburn, D.D., *Secretary*, Richmond, Va.
James Miller, Esq., *Treasurer*, " "

MINUTES.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May 5, 1864.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America met, according to appointment, in the Presbyterian Church at Charlotte, N. C., on Thursday, the 5th day of May, 1864, and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. James A. Lyon, D.D., Moderator of the last Assembly, on the text 1 Thess. ii, 4: "But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts."

After the sermon he proceeded to constitute the sessions with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Committee on Commissions, reported that the following Commissioners had appeared and been regularly enrolled, viz:

I. SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.
East Alabama,	James M. McKee (2),	
South Alabama,	E. Anderson (2),	B. A. Glass (2),
Tuskaloosa,	A. M. Watson,	G. H. Dunlap.

II. SYNOD OF ARKANSAS.

Arkansas,		
Creek Nation,		
Indian,		
Ouachita.		

III. SYNOD OF GEORGIA.

Cherokee,	A. Y. Lockridge,	David Ardis,
Flint River,	Jno. S. Wilson, D.D.,	S. A. Walkup,
Florida,	James Little,	J. M. W. Davidson,
Georgia,		
Hopewell,	Jno. W. Reid,	W. L. Mitchell,
	David Wills,	Samuel Barnett.

IV. SYNOD OF MEMPHIS.

Chickasaw,	L. B. Gaston,	R. S. Stewart,
Memphis,	D. H. Cummins (2),	Charles Lynn (2).
North Mississippi,	Angus Johnson (2),	F. G. Newell (2).
Western District,		
Tuscumbia,		

V. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

Central Mississippi,	John H. Rice, D.D.,	
East Mississippi,	Robert Bell,	James Patrick,
Louisiana,		
Mississippi,	A. McCallum,	
New Orleans,	B. M. Palmer, D.D.,	
	R. McInnis,	
Red River,		
Tombeckbee,	James A. Lyon, D.D.,	J. N. Cook.

VI. SYNOD OF NASHVILLE.

Holston,
Knoxville,
Maury,
Nashville.

VII. SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Concord,	D. A. Penick, Sr.,	Thomas A. Allison,
	J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D.,	D. A. Davis,
Fayetteville,	N. T. Bowdon,	J. G. Shepherd,
	J. M. Sprunt,	
Orange,	James C. Alexander,	Thomas M. Holt,
	Edward Hines,	Robert B. Watt.

VIII. SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Bethel,	T. W. Erwin,	G. McC. Witherspoon,
Charleston,	A. A. Porter,	Andrew Crawford,
	John R. Dow,	
Harmony,	Philip Pierson,	James McCreight,
	I. J. Long,	Joseph T. Walsh,
South Carolina,	J. B. Adger, D.D.,	Jno. W. Simpson,
	Ferdinand Jacobs,	T. C. Perrin.

IX. SYNOD OF TEXAS.

Brazos,	
Central Texas,	
Eastern Texas,	
Western Texas,	R. F. Bunting (3).

X. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

East Hanover,	M. D. Hoge, D.D.,	Geo. W. Tinsley (2).
Greenbrier,		
Lexington,	Wm. S. White, D.D.,	S. McD. Reid,
	T. L. Preston,	J. T. L. Preston,
Montgomery,	S. D. Stuart,	John B. Logan,
Roanoke,	P. Tinsley Penick,	
West Hanover,	R. L. Dabney, D.D.,	
Winchester,		Jas. D. Armstrong (3).

The Rev. Dr. Hoge and W. L. Mitchell were appointed a Committee on Elections, to whom were referred the cases of persons present without commissions.

The Assembly then took a recess until three o'clock this afternoon.

After recess, the Rev. Dr. Hoge, from the Committee on Elections, reported as follows:

The Committee on Elections report that the Rev. H. B. Boude, of the Presbytery of Nashville, Tennessee, is a chaplain in the army of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, and obtained a furlough of twenty days for the purpose of attending the meeting of this Assembly. He had previously received a letter from Dr. Lapsley, of Nashville, stating that it was very important that the Presbytery should be represented, and that he (Dr. Lapsley) could not attend.

Accordingly Mr. Boude obtained leave of absence, under the conviction that his Presbytery would appoint him; but he has no information to that effect.

The Rev. Robert McAlister is a member of the Presbytery of Red River. This Presbytery was to hold its meeting in the western part of Louisiana, two hundred miles west of the Mississippi river. There was nothing to prevent its members from holding their regular meeting, but all of them are so situated that not one of them could come to the Assembly. They are aware of the fact that Mr. McAlister is for the present residing in the vicinity of Charlotte, and he has no doubt that he has been appointed to represent his Assembly.

As these brethren have neither of them heard of their appointment, and have only presumptive evidence of it, the committee decline to express any opinion as to their claim to seats on the floor, and can only refer their cases to the favorable consideration of the Assembly.

After discussion of this report, the Assembly declined to receive the brethren named as members of this body, on the ground that there was no evidence of their appointment by the Presbyteries to which they belong.

The Assembly then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of Rev. John S. Wilson, a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Flint River, as Moderator, and of the Rev. Thomas L. Preston, a Commissioner from the Presbytery at Lexington, as Temporary Clerk.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, it was

Resolved, That the hours of meeting for the remaining sessions of this Assembly be fixed at 9 o'clock, A. M., and 3 P. M., and the hours of adjournment at 12½ P. M., and 5 P. M.

On motion of the Rev. D. A. Penick, the Assembly resolved to spend the first half-hour of every morning session, and the hours between 4 and 6 of Saturday afternoon next, in devotional exercises with special reference to the state of the Church and country.

On motion of Dr. Kirkpatrick, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock, to hear the reports from the Executive Committees of Foreign and Domestic Missions, and for Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock, to hear the reports of the Executive Committees of Education and Publication.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Palmer, the Assembly adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Adger.

FRIDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and spent the first half-hour in devotional exercises, according to appointment.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Additional Commissioners appeared and were duly enrolled, viz: from the Presbytery of South Alabama, E. Anderson, Minister, and B. A. Glass, Ruling Elder; from the Presbytery of East Alabama, James M. McKee, Minister; from the Presbytery of East Hanover, Geo. W. Tinsley, Ruling Elder; from the Presbytery of North Mississippi, Angus Johnson, Minister, and F. G. Newell, Ruling Elder; from the Presbytery of Memphis, D. H. Cummins, Minister, and Charles Lynn, Ruling Elder.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

On Bills and Overtures.—Ministers—J. A. Lyon, D.D., J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D., James Little, James C. Alexander. Ruling Elders—Samuel Barnett, James Patrick, Jno. B. I. Logan.

Judicial Committee.—Ministers—W. S. White, D.D., A. M. Watson. Ruling Elders—W. L. Mitchell, T. C. Perrin, J. G. Shepherd.

On Theological Seminaries.—Ministers—M. D. Hoge, D.D., A. A. Porter, John W. Reid, S. D. Stuart. Ruling Elders—J. T. L. Preston, S. A. Walkup, W. L. Mitchell.

On Domestic Missions.—Ministers—R. L. Dabney, D.D., D. A. Penick, John R. Dow, Robert Bell. Ruling Elders—G. H. Dunlap, David Ardis, James McCreight.

On Foreign Missions.—Ministers—R. McInnis, L. B. Gaston, J. M. Sprunt. Ruling Elders—J. M. W. Davidson, R. S. Stewart.

On Publication.—Ministers—B. M. Palmer, D.D., Ferdinand Jacobs, N. T. Bowdon, A. A. Porter. Ruling Elders—S. McD. Reid, J. T. L. Preston, Samuel Barnett.

On Education.—Ministers—J. B. Adger, D.D., David Wills, R. McInnis. Ruling Elders—John W. Simpson, Thos. A. Allison.

On the Narrative.—Ministers—David Wills, T. W. Erwin, Ferdinand Jacobs. Ruling Elders—Joseph T. Walsh, Robert B. Watt.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Ministers—J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D., Philip Pierson, A. McCallum. Ruling Elders—R. S. Stewart, J. N. Cook.

On Leave of Absence.—Ministers—J. M. Sprunt, A. Y. Lockridge. Ruling Elder—D. A. Davis.

On Systematic Benevolence.—Ministers—Jno. H. Rice, D.D., Edward Hines, P. Tinsley Penick, I. J. Long. Ruling Elders—J. G. Shepherd, G. McC. Witherspoon, Andrew Crawford.

On Devotional Exercises.—Ministers—J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D., D. A. Penick. Ruling Elder—Thomas A. Allison.

On Finance.—Ruling Elders—T. C. Perrin, W. L. Mitchell, Andrew Crawford.

On Records of Synod of Alabama.—Ministers—John W. Reid, T. W. Erwin. Ruling Elder—J. McC. Witherspoon.

On Records of Synod of Arkansas.—Ministers—A. Y. Lockridge, James Little. Ruling Elder—David Ardis.

On Records of Synod of Georgia.—Ministers—John H. Rice, D.D., John R. Dow. Ruling Elder—R. S. Stewart.

On Records of Synod of Memphis.—Ministers—James C. Alexander, A. McCallum. Ruling Elder—S. A. Walkup.

On Records of Synod of Mississippi.—Ministers—L. B. Gaston, I. J. Long. Ruling Elder—Thomas M. Holt.

On Records of Synod of Nashville.—Ministers—P. T. Penick, Robert Bell. Ruling Elder—J. N. Cook.

On Records of Synod of North Carolina.—Ministers—S. D. Stewart, T. W. Erwin. Ruling Elder—Jno. B. Logan.

On Records of Synod of South Carolina.—Ministers—A. M. Watson, Edward Hines. Ruling Elder—G. H. Dunlap.

On Records of Synod of Texas.—Ministers—N. T. Bowdon, James C. Alexander. Ruling Elder—Andrew Crawford.

On Records of Synod of Virginia.—Ministers—A. A. Porter, James Little. Ruling Elder—J. M. W. Davidson.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Adger, the resolution of yesterday, intended to fix the hours of meeting and adjourning, was reconsidered, and it was resolved to adjourn this day at 1, P. M., with no afternoon session; and that the remaining sessions of the Assembly be opened at 9, A. M., and closed at 2, P. M., until further ordered.

The order of the day for 10 o'clock was then taken up, viz: the reports of the Executive Committees of Foreign and Domestic Missions; which were presented and read by the Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D., the Secretary of Foreign and of Domestic Missions. The reports were referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

On motion of Judge Shepherd, it was made the second order of the day for to-morrow, to hear reports from the army by Rev. B. T. Lacy, Rev. Dr. Waddel, and Rev. Dr. Palmer, Commissioners of the Assembly to said army.

The Rev. Dr. Adger, from the *ad interim* Committee on the Revision of the Form of Government and Book of Discipline, submitted the following report, which was received, and, on motion of Rev. Dr. Hoge, its recommendations were adopted:

The Committee on the Revision of the Form of Government and Book of Discipline submit to the General Assembly the following report:

The committee found it impossible to agree upon a time and place of meeting during any part of the last summer or winter. The chairman, unwilling that the whole ecclesiastical year should pass without a meeting, took it upon him to call the committee together at Charlotte on the 26th day of April. The Rev. B. M. Palmer and E. T. Baird, with the Hon. J. G. Shepherd, and the chairman, did meet on the 27th April. We took up on the first day the *General Rules of Order* committed to us by the Assembly of 1861, preferring to leave the Book of Discipline until a larger representation of the committee should arrive. We carefully revised those Rules, with Jefferson's Manual and some other authorities in our hands, adding a few rules to the previous collection. The chief improvement which we flatter ourselves that we have made, is a classification of them under distinct heads (suggested by a similar arrangement in Baird's Digest), by the use of which the Moderator and members of any Court may find at a glance any rule sought for.

Having finished this part of our work, the committee then took up the Book of Discipline as it was left by our late broth-

er, J. H. Thornwell. A few alterations have been made by us in the book as it came to us from his hands; but we can not particularize in a way that would be satisfactory to the Assembly. The main improvements which we claim to have made are as follows:

1. The introduction of a chapter on the Discipline of the Church, as it is to be administered in regard to her baptized non-communicating members.

2. The more full and complete statement of the Doctrine of Censure, in its various forms of Admonition, Suspension, Excommunication, and Deposition.

After completing, as far as possible at present, their labors during six days diligently employed in the revision of the Discipline and General Rules, the committee turned their attention to the Form of Government. This book was committed to us by specific reference at Augusta, and on subsequent occasions particular questions relative to the same were likewise referred. The committee are deeply impressed with the desirableness of our possessing, as a Church, a more scientific statement of the Scripture Doctrine of Church Government than is found in our present form. The subject has been largely discussed, and the doctrine much developed in various directions since our present form was adopted, and the book is no longer fully abreast of the advanced stage of the doctrine as it is actually held amongst us. For example: the book does not contain any statement of what are the radical principles of our system, except a very imperfect one, introduced in a mere foot-note. Again, our doctrine of the Courts receives no adequate presentation, nor is anything found in the book respecting the duties in full of the different office-bearers. Again, the Evangelist does not appear in any part of the book, except in a clause appended to the chapter on Ordination and in the general references made to that most important office in the chapter on Missions. Then, again, the method prescribed in the book for setting apart Ruling Elders and Deacons without the imposition of hands, is clearly unscriptural; and the remarkable omission cries aloud for the consideration of the Church.

The committee are prepared to present to the Assembly, if it so will, the Book of Discipline and the General Rules as amended, although they would like to have the opportunity of a still further revisal of their work, and of submitting it to another and a fuller meeting of their own members. The committee also feel impressed with the belief that no reading of these papers to this body could possess the Assembly with any adequate idea of their character as amended. It appears to your committee that there is no other possible way of our reporting to the Assembly satisfactorily than by spreading out the documents in print before the eye, that their various parts may be

deliberately considered and compared together, and the whole also compared with the present books.

What the committee would recommend to the Assembly, therefore, is:

I. That the consideration of the amended Book of Discipline and General Rules, after they shall have been read to the body, if the Assembly so desire, shall be referred to the next General Assembly.

II. That the committee be instructed to complete their labors on the Form of Government, and to print copies of their whole work, to be distributed amongst our Ministers and Elders, as soon as may be convenient, with a view to the careful consideration of the same by the Church previous to the meeting of the next Assembly.

It is proper to add that the Hon. W. L. Mitchell arrived on the 4th of May, having been hindered on his journey by the government's restrictions upon railroad travelling, and that he materially aided us on that day by his criticisms on our work; also that, having examined it at his leisure, he has given to it his full and hearty approbation. Still further, that the Rev. Dr. Dabney and the Hon. T. C. Perrin arrived and were with us at our closing meeting, when this report was presented—they having also been providentially hindered from meeting us at an earlier period. Moreover, that the Rev. Professor Peck and W. P. Webb, Esq., both signified to the committee, through the chairman, its being out of their power to meet us at this time, and also their assent to the Book of Discipline as prepared by Dr. Thornwell, with one amendment relative to appeals, which Mr. Webb proposes.

The committee have agreed to meet next, Providence permitting, at Prince Edward, on the first Thursday in August.

All which is respectfully submitted.

For the Committee,

JOHN B. ADGER, *Chairman.*

The Rev. R. McInnis presented an overture from the Synod of Mississippi, touching the right of voting in the election of a pastor, which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Rev. David Wills presented an overture from the Presbytery of Hopewell, with reference to the subject of licensing colored exhorters and preachers, which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

T. C. Perrin, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Columbia, submitted the annual report of that body (see Appendix), which was received and referred to the Standing Committee on Theological Seminaries.

On motion of the Rev. David Wills, it was resolved to decide upon the place of meeting of the next General Assembly; when the Presbyterian Church, in the City of Macon, Georgia, was unanimously chosen.

On motion of Judge Shepherd, the report of the Trustees of the General Assembly was called for; which was then read by T. C. Perrin, and is as follows:

The Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America submit the following report.

The Trustees, under the call of Dr. Palmer, met at Columbia on the 21st of May, 1863. The charter granted by the State of Tennessee was considered, freely discussed, and accepted. The Board was then organized by the appointment of Thomas C. Perrin President, and J. A. Ansley Secretary.

In accordance with the views of the Assembly, a committee of two was appointed from each of the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Louisiana, to apply to the state authorities for charters of incorporation, to wit:

North Carolina—Joseph H. Wilson and J. G. Shepherd.
South Carolina—T. C. Perrin and J. A. Inglis.
Georgia—W. L. Mitchell and E. A. Nesbit.
Florida—B. F. Whitner and W. A. Forward.
Alabama—Geo. J. S. Walker and J. M. Calhoun.
Louisiana—T. A. Clarke and J. A. Maybin.

A committee, consisting of the President, Judge Whitner, and Joseph H. Wilson, was appointed to look after the interests, legal and equitable, pertaining to the General Assembly, with power to sue for the same.

The Board also adopted certain By-Laws for its government. A copy of the proceedings of the meeting and of the By-Laws is herewith submitted for the inspection of the Assembly.

Partly owing to the long-continued illness of the much-lamented Judge Whitner, ending in his death, but mainly owing to the disturbed state of the country and the irregularity in the courts of justice, nothing has been done toward collecting the dues of the Assembly.

Notice was given for the annual meeting of the Board; but such were the obstructions in the way and the engagements of the members, that a quorum could not be obtained, and the meeting was not held. For the want of such meeting no report could regularly be made. But it is believed that the information contained in the foregoing will be acceptable to the Assembly.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS C. PERRIN, *President.*

On motion of Judge Shepherd, this report was referred to a committee of five to bring in a report upon the subject-matter thereof; whereupon the following appointment of this committee was announced: J. G. Shepherd, T. C. Perrin, W. L. Mitchell, J. T. L. Preston, Jno. B. I. Logan.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon, it was resolved to afford to reporters of newspapers in Charlotte, or elsewhere, every possible facility for perfecting such reports of the proceedings of the Assembly as they may desire to prepare.

The Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick offered the following resolution, pending the discussion of which the hour for adjournment arrived:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Revision of the Form of Government be instructed to consider the propriety of making such changes in that instrument as will provide that the Commissioners to the General Assembly should be elected for two years, one-half of the number going out of office each year.

The Assembly adjourned—closing with prayer by the Rev. Dr. White.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with the appointed devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

R. F. Bunting, Minister, from the Presbytery of Western Texas, and James D. Armstrong, Ruling Elder, from the Presbytery of Winchester, appeared, and were enrolled as additional Commissioners.

The Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, made a report, which was received.

The Synodical Records and Narratives on the State of Religion were then called for, when the records of the Synods of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Mississippi, and Alabama were presented and placed in the hands of the appropriate Standing Committees; and narratives from the Presbyteries of Hopewell, North Mississippi, Cherokee, Charleston, Chickasaw, South Carolina, West Hanover, Lexington, Concord, South Alabama, Flint River, Tuscaloosa, Central Mississippi, Roanoke, Fayetteville, Tombeckbee, Orange, Bethel, and Memphis, were present-

ed, and placed in the hands of the Standing Committee on the Narrative.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Dabney, it was made the order of the day for Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, to hear the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly to confer with a similar committee of the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church, on the subject of union between the General Assembly and that body.

The Rev. Dr. Palmer, from the *ad interim* Committee on the Revision of the Hymn-book, presented the following report; which, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Adger, was placed upon the docket:

Report of Committee on Revision of the Hymn-book.

During the past year but few criticisms have been received upon the report submitted to the last Assembly. With a view, however, to consider these, a meeting of the committee was called by the chairman on the 4th of May, in the Town of Charlotte. Owing to providential hindrances, three members out of seven alone attended, viz: the Rev. Drs. Moore and Petrie, together with the chairman. This report, therefore, comes before the Assembly under the sanction of a minority of the committee only.

Three clerical errors have been detected in the report of last year, as published in the Appendix to the Minutes, to wit: the 2d part of the 100th Psalm is not omitted, as therein published; the 2d part of the 68th Psalm is not omitted; only the 2d verse of the 84th Psalm, 4th part, is omitted.

In accordance with suggestions from different parties, the committee have restored the following Psalms, omitted in their previous revision, viz:

Verse 4th of Psalm 1st, part 1st.
1st and 2d parts of Psalm 25th.
2d part of Psalm 27th.
2d part of Psalm 40th, omitting verses 7th and 8th.
2d part of Psalm 51st, omitting verses 1st and 2d.
Verses 1st and 2d of Psalm 57th.
Substitute 2d for 3d part of Psalm 80th.
2d part of Psalm 92d.
2d part of Psalm 117th.
2d part of Psalm 122d.
2d part of Psalm 143d, transposing verses 2d and 3d.
1st part of Psalm 145th.

Hymns.

Hymn 469th is omitted, as being a duplicate of Hymn 500th.
The following have been restored by request:
Hymn 6th, omitting verses 2d and 3d.

Hymn 8	Hymn 203	Hymn 379
" 52	" 212	" 406
" 68	" 213	" 419 omit v. 6
" 69	" 222	" 415 " 5, 6
" 70	" 231	" 455
" 111	" 233	" 463
" 119	" 234	" 495
" 168	" 235	" 528
" 173	" 304	" 531
" 178	" 319	" 561
" 196	" 325	" 661
" 200	" 372	

The following Hymns, entirely new, have been added:

Around the throne of God in Heaven.
Awake my soul, stretch every nerve.
Bless, O Lord, each opening year.
Depth of mercy, can there be.
I lay my sins on Jesus.
Joyfully, joyfully, onward we move.
Let worldly minds the world pursue.
Nearer, my God, to thee.
Now the shades of night are gone.
Peace, troubled soul, whose plaintive moan.
Witness ye men and angels now.
Who shall sing, if not the children.

Seven Psalms have thus been added to the one hundred and seventy-six previously reported, and forty-eight Hymns to the four hundred and forty: making the total number of Psalms and Hymns about six hundred and seventy-one.

In view of the difficulties which now exist as to publishing, and to secure more fully the judgment of the Church as to the proposed changes, the committee would respectfully suggest that the book be held under consideration for another year—that this report be published as supplementary to that made to the last Assembly—that further criticism be invited from all who are interested in the work—and that the committee be allowed another opportunity to review their own selections, and to present the book to the next Assembly for final adoption.

B. M. PALMER,
T. V. MOORE,
G. H. W. PETRIE,
On behalf of the Committee.

The order of the day for 10 o'clock was now taken up, viz: hearing the reports of the Executive Committees on Publication and Education; which were presented and read by the Secretary of Publication and of Education, Rev. John Leyburn, D. D., and referred to the appropriate standing committees.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon, it was made the second order of the day for Monday, to hear the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly to report to this on the subject matter of the Address read before the Assembly in Columbia, touching the religious instruction of the negroes.

In pursuance of the arrangement ordered on yesterday, the Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D., the Rev. John N. Waddel, D.D., and the Rev. B. T. Lacy, Commissioners to the Army, addressed the Assembly on the subject of their mission; when, on motion of J. T. L. Preston, the Standing Committee on Domestic Missions was instructed to report a minute in specific response to the subject matter of those addresses, and also having special reference to the request made, in behalf of General R. E. Lee, for the prayers of the Assembly and the Church, in view of his great responsibilities as the commander of one of our principal armies.

On motion of J. T. L. Preston, the report of the *ad interim* committee on the subject of Beneficiary Education was presented and read by the chairman, Rev. Joseph R. Wilson; which report, on motion of J. B. I. Logan, was received and placed on the docket.

On motion of the Rev. David Wills, it was made the third order of the day for Monday, to hear the report of the *ad interim* committee on the subject of providing a fund for the Relief of Superannuated and Disabled Ministers and their Families.

On motion of W. L. Mitchell, the Assembly adjourned. Closed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Hoge.

Monday Morning, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and spent the first half-hour in prayer, reading the Scriptures, and singing.

The Minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

The Rev. Dr. White read a letter from the Stated Clerk of the Synod of Virginia, setting forth the impracticability of his sending up to this Assembly the written records of said Synod, and asking permission to substitute for these an authenticated copy of the published Minutes. This permission was granted, and the published Minutes of this Synod were placed in the hands of the appropriate standing committee.

Judge Shepherd, from the committee to which had been referred the report from the Trustees of the General Assembly in relation to the Church Charter, reported as follows, and the report was adopted:

The select committee to whom has been referred the report from the Trustees of this Assembly in relation to the Church Charter, having had under consideration the subject matter embraced in the reference, respectfully submit, that it is deemed expedient to make an application to the Legislature of North Carolina for the purpose of procuring an act of incorporation which shall contain large and liberal provisions. No state, except Tennessee, has granted to us yet the corporate existence for which we have sought; and, even in this instance, enough has not been done to secure such rights as we may acquire. Although the charter allowed by the State of Tennessee has been received by the corporators named in it, and a meeting held for the purpose of organization, yet the work has not been done with that regularity which relieves the case of serious embarrassment and doubt. The corporation must have a residence, although, by the comity of nations, it may exercise, when in existence, corporate rights beyond the bounds of the creating power. The acceptance and the organization under the act being made in South Carolina and not in Tennessee, the corporate body assumed its functions beyond the territory which had authorized a residence and existence in its limits. The General Assembly of North Carolina will meet on the 17th instant, and it is recommended that Giles Mebane, Esq., Speaker of the Senate, Col. John A. Young, Col. Thomas A. Allison, William S. Harris, and J. G. Shepherd, at present members of the legislature of the state, be appointed a committee to prepare a bill and procure an act of incorporation from the said General Assembly, which shall be as full and as liberal in its provisions as may be obtained.

Respectfully submitted.

J. G. SHEPHERD,
For the Committee.

May 6, 1864.

Memorials from the Presbyteries of South Alabama and Hopewell with reference to the union of the General Assembly and the United Synod were received, read, and, on motion, laid on the table.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, it was made the order of the day, for 10 o'clock to-morrow, to hear the Rev. L. McDonald, delegate to the Assembly from the Associate Reformed Synod of the South.

J. B. I. Logan offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance:

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to bring in a scheme by which the Assembly may, by its own agencies, give more general information to the churches of the Assembly's plans and schemes of action.

The order of the day for 10 o'clock was now taken up, viz: hearing the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly to confer with a similar committee on the part of the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church on the subject of ecclesiastical union. This report was presented by the Rev. Dr. Dabney, chairman of said committee, was received, and is as follows:

The committee to confer with a committee of the United Synod report to the General Assembly:

That they met a committee appointed by the United Synod, in July last, and, after prayer and conference, unanimously agreed to recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following, which the committee of the United Synod likewise recommended, with similar unanimity, to that body:

The General Assembly and the United Synod of the Presbyterian Churches in the Confederate States of America, holding the same system of doctrines and church order, and believing that their union will glorify God by promoting peace, removing the dishonor done to religion by former separations, and increasing their ability for the edification of the Body of Christ, do agree to unite under the name and existing charter of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, on the following basis:

Article I.—The General Assembly and the United Synod declare that they continue to sincerely receive and adopt the Confession and Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church, as containing the system of doctrines taught in the Holy Scriptures, and approve of its government and discipline.

Inasmuch as some have been supposed to hold the system of doctrines and church order in different senses, the General Assembly and the United Synod do further adopt the following *Declaration*, touching former grounds of debate, in order to manifest our hearty agreement, to remove suspicions and offences, to restore full confidence between brethren, and to honor God's saving truth.

§ 1. Concerning the *Fall of Man* and *Original Sin*, we faithfully hold, with the Confession of Faith, that our first parents, by their first act of disobedience, "fell from their original

righteousness and communion with God, and so became dead in sin, and wholly defiled in all the faculties and parts of soul and body; that they, being the root of all mankind, the guilt of this sin was imputed, and the same death in sin and corrupted nature conveyed to all their posterity, descended from them by ordinary generation; and that from this original corruption, whereby we are utterly indisposed, disabled, and made opposite to all good, and wholly inclined to all evil, do proceed all actual transgressions."

This imputation of the guilt of this sin of our first parents we hold in this sense: that thereby their posterity are judicially condemned by God on account of that sin, and so begin their existence in that corruption of nature and subjection to wrath into which our first parents fell by their first sin. And we mean that the guilt of their sin, which is imputed, is, according to the constant usage of theology, "obligation to punishment," and not the sinfulness of the act itself, which latter can not, by imputation, be the quality of any other than the personal agents.

Touching the moral corruption of Adam's posterity, we believe that it is entire, and also native and original; that all actual transgressions do proceed from it as their source, and not merely from imitation of evil example, as the Pelagians vainly affirm, and that this native tendency to sin is itself morally evil, deserving of God's righteous wrath, and requiring, both in infants and adults, the righteousness of Christ to justify from its guilt, as well as his regenerating grace to overcome it. We do also believe that, because of this original corruption, men have wholly lost all ability of will to choose spiritual good for its own sake, or to regenerate, convert, or sanctify their own hearts. But we equally reject the error of those who assert that the sinner has no power of any kind for the performance of duty. This error strips the sinner of his moral agency and accountableness, and introduces the heresy of either Antinomianism or Fatalism. The true doctrine of the Scriptures, as stated in our Confession, keeps constantly in view the moral agency of man, the contingency of second causes, the use of means, the voluntariness of all the creature's sin, and his utter inexcusableness therein. It teaches that, while the Fall has darkened and impaired all the faculties of man's soul, and inclined his free-will to evil only, it has not destroyed in him any capacity of understanding or conscience, whereby the holy creature knows and serves God, and on which free-agency and responsibility depend.

And touching God's permission of the entrance of sin among his creatures, we reject the doctrine of those who assert that he had no power efficiently to prevent it in consistency with man's freedom and responsibility, and we believe that God permitted the introduction of sin for wise and good reasons which he has not revealed.

§ 2. Concerning *Regeneration*, we hold that this act doth essentially consist, not of a change of the creature's purpose by himself as to sin and holiness, but of a change of the dispositions of soul from which such purposes do proceed, and in which change all regenerating power is of the Holy Spirit. But yet all the acts of soul, wherein the sinner turneth from his sins unto God and holiness, are by the instrumentality of God's truth, and are as rational and free as those which are performed wholly of his natural powers.

§ 3. Concerning the *Atonement* of Jesus Christ, we hold that he, being very God and very man in one person, was our substitute under the law; that the guilt of men's sins was imputed to him, that his sufferings were borne as the penalty of that guilt, and were a vicarious yet true satisfaction therefor to the justice of God, and that without this, God's perfections would forbid the pardon of any sin. This atonement, we believe, though by temporary sufferings, was, by reason of the infinite glory of Christ's person, full and sufficient for the guilt of the whole world, and is to be freely and sincerely offered to every creature, inasmuch as it leaveth no other obstacle to the pardon of all men under the gospel, save the enmity and unbelief of those who voluntarily reject it. Wherefore, on the one hand, we reject the opinion of those who teach that the atonement was so limited and equal to the guilt of the elect only, that if God had designed to redeem more, Christ must have suffered more or differently. And, on the other hand, we hold that God the Father doth efficaciously apply this redemption, through Christ's purchase, to all those to whom it was His eternal purpose to apply it, and to no others.

§ 4. Concerning the believer's *Justification*, we hold that Christ not only bare the penalty of their guilt, but fully obeyed the law as their substitute; and that the righteousness of his sufferings and obedience, imputed unto them that believe, is the sole ground for which God pardoneth all their sins and accepteth them as righteous in his sight. And we account the agency of the believer's faith in this justification to be only instrumental, and not meritorious.

§ 5. Holding these views of the doctrines of Grace, we believe that the Church is dependent, under God, for the revival of her spiritual life and the implanting of it in sinners, on the work of the Holy Ghost through the truth. Wherefore we hold that the proper means for promoting revivals are the labors of holy living and teaching through the Word and Sacraments; and, on the one hand, we testify, from our observation and the Word of God, that it is dangerous to ply the disordered heart of the sinner with a disproportionate address to the imagination and passions, to withhold from his awakened mind scriptural instruction, and to employ with him such novel and startling measures as must tend to impart to his religious excitement a character rather

noisy, shallow, and transient, than deep, solid, and scriptural. But, on the other hand, we value, cherish, and pray for true revivals of religion, and wherever they bring forth the permanent fruits of holiness in men's hearts, rejoice in them as God's work, notwithstanding the mixture of human imperfections. And we consider it the solemn duty of ministers to exercise a scriptural warmth, affection, and directness in appealing to the understandings, hearts, and consciences of men.

§ 6. We hold that God hath organized his *Church Visible* to be "the pillar and ground of the truth," "for the gathering and perfecting of the saints in this life to the end of the world;" that hence it is the duty of every member and officer of the Church to further this work by his personal labors in his appropriate sphere, and by stated oblations from his worldly goods unto God; and that their common and concerted efforts for this end [which is the proper end of the Church in this world] are by God committed to the Presbyters and Deacons thereof, whom he has appointed as her officers. Whence it follows that the associated and organized acts of the people of God for the conversion of the world unto Christ, are the proper functions of these officers, or of church-courts constituted of them. Those who seek the world's conversion by societies of voluntary and human origin distinct from the branches of Christ's visible Church, therefore ought not to ask the officers and courts of the Church to relinquish these labors to them. Yet we can bid them God-speed in all their sincere efforts to diffuse the true Word of God, and we concede to the members of our churches full liberty to extend to them such personal aid as their Christian consciences approve.

Article II.—The General Assembly and the United Synod hereby agree that the Synod of Virginia, under the care of the General Assembly, and the Synod of Virginia, under the care of the United Synod, with the Presbytery of New River, shall constitute the Synod of Virginia, and shall hold its next meeting on the day of in Lexington, Virginia, and the opening services shall be conducted by the two last Moderators present from the respective bodies. The Presbytery of Texas, under the care of the United Synod, shall be united to the Synod of Texas, under the care of the General Assembly. The Presbyteries of Lexington, South Clinton, and Newton, under the care of the United Synod, together with those now included in the Synod of Mississippi, under the care of the General Assembly, shall constitute the Synod of Mississippi, and shall hold their next meeting at on the day of and shall be opened as above. The Presbyteries of Holston, Union, and Kingston, under the care of the United Synod, together with those now included in the Synod of Nashville, under the care of the General Assembly, shall constitute the

Synod of Nashville, and shall hold their next meeting at on the day of and shall be opened as above. And the churches of the Presbytery of North Alabama, under the care of the United Synod, which are within the State of Alabama, shall be united to the Synod of Memphis, and those churches of said Presbyteries which are within the State of Tennessee, to the Synod of Nashville. And that the Presbytery of Osage, under the care of the United Synod, be attached to the Synod of Arkansas, under the care of the General Assembly.

Article III.—These Synods, at their first annual meetings, or as soon thereafter as practicable, shall define the boundaries of Presbyteries, where ministers and churches, under the care of the General Assembly and of the United Synod, exist in the same territory, and shall so distribute said ministers and churches that those within the same geographical limits shall not belong to different Presbyteries. It is recommended that, in such changes, that Presbytery shall hold its name and succession which has the major number of ministers, and shall receive the records and presbyterial funds of the other Presbytery, assuming also its existing pecuniary obligations. And it is agreed that no other condition shall be required of the members constituting said Presbyteries, except the approval of this plan of union.

Article IV.—Wherever organized churches, under the care of the General Assembly and of the United Synod, exist in the same neighborhood, if their union is necessary to the successful sustentation of the gospel, they are affectionately exhorted to unite immediately, postponing private convenience to the glory of God. But no organized churches, or existing compacts with pastors or stated supplies, shall be extinguished by this act of union, except they voluntarily agree to combine with neighboring churches. And when such unions of churches take place, they, with their sessions, shall be organized under the direction of their own Presbyteries.

Article V.—Inasmuch as the General Assembly and the United Synod have similar agencies for aiding pious youth in their education for the ministry, for circulating divine truth by printing, and for missions, home and foreign, it is agreed that the committees of the General Assembly, from and after the union, shall receive and sustain, according to existing compacts, all colporteurs, beneficiaries studying for the ministry, and home and foreign missionaries then under the care of the United Synod, as well as those of the General Assembly. And that all funds and other property now held for the above objects by the United Synod, or its committees or other agencies, shall be passed over to the appropriate committees of the

General Assembly. And these committees shall thereafter solicit contributions for these evangelical laborers in all the churches alike, as they are enabled.

ARTICLE VI.—Whenever this above written plan of union shall have been adopted by the General Assembly and the United Synod, it shall be in full force. And the Presbyteries, at their next spring meetings, shall elect Commissioners to meet in General Assembly at on the day of May, 186 , on the following ratio of representation, viz: (See Form of Government, ch. 12., § ii.)

(Signed)

R. L. DABNEY,
WILLIAM BROWN,
JAS. B. RAMSAY,
J. N. WADDEL,
F. N. WATKINS,
J. T. L. PRESTON, by F. N. WATKINS,
Committee of General Assembly.

JOS. C. STILES, Chairman,
CHAS. H. READ,
J. D. MITCHELL,
J. J. ROBINSON,
J. F. JOHNSTON,
Committee of United Synod.

In connection with this report, the following communication from the Rev. Dr. Baird was read:

The undersigned desires to state to the Reverend General Assembly that he was not present at the meeting of the Joint Committee on Union, owing to the presence of the enemy in the part of the country where he resides causing an interruption of the mails. A very kind and fraternal note was written him by the respected chairman, informing him that a meeting of the committee would shortly be called, and begging him to make his arrangements to be present; but, owing to the cause already mentioned, this note did not reach him until the very week of the meeting of the committee; nor did the notice of the time and place of the meeting reach him at all. Immediately, however, on the receipt of the note from the chairman, he left home with the hope of being present, but on his way learned that the committee had met and adjourned. The undersigned would have rejoiced to see his way clear to sign his name to the plan agreed on; but this he was not able to do. While he cordially rejoices in the conviction that his colleagues are sound and orthodox brethren, worthy of the highest confidence of the Church, and of whom she may justly be proud, and that the

doctrinal articles are Calvinistic and true, according to the sense the committees manifestly designed in preparing them—at the same time, he believes that, in probably three different places, the language is liable to misapprehension, and might become the cause of trouble among ourselves hereafter. Nor does he believe that any series of doctrinal articles could be framed which would not be obnoxious to the same objection. Moreover, as published in the newspapers, the doctrinal statement was called "The Doctrinal Basis of Union." He felt that the Assembly had no constitutional right to make anything the basis of union but the constitution itself. On examining the proceedings of the committees in manuscript, however, he was glad to find no such language was employed by them.

The undersigned believes that the union of these two denominations, if effected in such a manner as to secure the undoubted succession of the General Assembly and of our various Synods on the basis of our symbols of doctrine and order, interpreted and adhered to according to the plain and obvious sense of the ordination engagements, will be promotive of the best interests of our Zion. It is necessary, in order to the preservation of existing chartered rights, that this point be carefully guarded, and that the principle of elective affinity be carefully excluded. A union on such terms as these the undersigned publicly advocated nearly three years ago, and he still adheres to the same view.

All which is respectfully submitted.

E. T. BAIRD.

On motion of J. T. L. Preston, the courtesy of allowing a place on the floor of the Assembly was extended to the Rev. Wm. Brown, D.D., the Rev. John N. Waddel, D.D., and to the Rev. E. T. Baird, D.D., members of the Committee of Conference, for the purpose of now making such statements as they may deem proper touching the history and subject matter of the above report.

Pending the discussion of a motion, made by the Rev. L. B. Gaston, to adopt said report, memorials that had been sent up to the General Assembly with reference to the subject of the proposed union, from the Presbyteries of South Carolina and Tuscaloosa, were received and read for the information of the Assembly.

During the further discussion of Mr. Gaston's motion, the hour of adjournment arrived, Dr. Adger having the floor.

The Assembly adjourned, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon. Closed with prayer by the Rev. R. McInnis.

TUESDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with the usual devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Alabama reported, recommending that they be approved so far as written. Adopted.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Arkansas, Texas, Nashville, and Memphis, reported that these had not been placed in their hands, and asked to be discharged. Said committees were accordingly discharged.

The Finance Committee, by T. C. Perrin, chairman, presented a report, which was received and placed on the docket.

The order of the day having arrived, viz: to hear the delegate, Rev. L. McDonald, from the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, he appeared and addressed the Assembly. The Moderator responded in behalf of the Assembly.

The following paper from the Associate Reformed Synod was read and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence:

FAIRFIELD DISTRICT, S. C., Feb. 3, 1864.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: I furnish you a copy of the resolutions of the Associate Reformed Synod in reference to union with the General Assembly.

"The subject of union with the General Assembly having been brought up, on motion of Mr. Murphy, it was

"*Resolved*, 1*st*, That we defer action for the present, in consideration of the smallness of this meeting, and of the want of information in reference to the wishes of three of the Presbyteries.

"*Resolved*, 2*d*, That from the facts elicited in the progress of these negotiations, we are encouraged to hope that this union will be eventually consummated."

These resolutions were adopted at our last meeting in September 1863, at Ebenezer, Jefferson co., Ga.

Yours truly, J. BOYCE.

REV. J. R. WILSON, D.D.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon, the unfinished business of yesterday was resumed, viz: the discussion of the motion for adopting the report of the Committee of Conference with the United Synod.

Pending this discussion the Assembly adjourned, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon. Closed with prayer by the Rev. D. A. Penick.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and spent the first half-hour in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Rev. Dr. Lyon, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 1, with its answer, as follows:

"*Overture from the Synod of Mississippi, adopted at Enterprise, Miss., Oct.* 31, 1863.

"Does the Form of Government grant the right of voting in the election of pastor to any but church members, who submit to discipline, and contribute their just proportion according to their engagements?

"Attested: "R. McINNIS,
"*Stated Clerk of Synod.*"

Answer. The Form of Government is liable to misconstruction as to the persons entitled to vote in the calling of a pastor; consequently, different and conflicting interpretations are constantly given to that portion of chap. xv which treats of the election of a pastor: therefore, the General Assembly refer this subject to the Committee on Revision, with instruction so to frame this portion of chap. xv as that it will admit of no ambiguity or misconstruction.

This answer was adopted.

On motion of J. B. I. Logan, the report of the Committee on Finance was taken from the docket and adopted, as follows:

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report, that the General Assembly wants money to pay the salaries of its clerks, which are ascertained and fixed; and also for contingent expenses, which are uncertain and changing every year; the latter includes the expenses of its delegates to corresponding bodies, the publication of its Minutes, and other documents. Occasionally the Assembly is called upon to pay the expenses of commissioners to its own body from Presbyteries that are unable to pay them, which increases this sum. To this sum, too, must be added the travelling expenses of the committees of the Church and its other agents.

To raise the money to defray these expenses a ratable assessment should be made upon the different Presbyteries, according to their supposed or ascertained ability to pay—proper credit being allowed for the amount which it is supposed will be raised from the sale of the Minutes.

The committee has examined the accounts and vouchers of the Permanent and Stated Clerks as submitted, from which it appears that they have received and paid away as follows:

Accounts of the Permanent Clerk.

Received for Minutes of Augusta, sold	$94 10
" at office of Southern Presbyterian	96 15
Contingent fund: Roanoke Presbytery for 1862	15 00
" " " " " 1863	20 00
" " South Alabama " 1863	20 00
Amount from Treasurer of Assembly	696 60
	941 85
Paid out	965 16
Amount due to the Permanent Clerk	$23 31

Accounts of the Stated Clerk.

To am't rec'd from sales of Minutes for '61, '62, and '63,	$69 50
To assessment on Presbyteries of Mississippi and Tombeckbee	35 00
	104 50
Cr.	
By balance of salary of the Stated Clerk	100 00
Balance on hand	$4 50

The expenses for paper and printing will be greater the ensuing year than the last. It is believed that all the contingent expenses will be much greater. The committee, therefore, recommend that the assessment upon the Presbyteries be four times that for the last year—that is to say:

On the Presbyteries of Lexington, Orange, Fayetteville, Concord, South Carolina, Harmony, Charleston, New Orleans, South Alabama, East Alabama, Tombeckbee, East Hanover, and Flint River, each one hundred dollars—amounting to $1,300.

On the Presbyteries of West Hanover, Montgomery, Roanoke, Nashville, Bethel, Hopewell, Florida, Cherokee, Tuscaloosa, Mississippi, Central Mississippi, Chickasaw, Memphis, and North Mississippi, each eighty dollars—amounting to $1,120.

On the Presbyteries of Holston, Western District, Maury, Knoxville, Georgia, Louisiana, Red River, Greenbrier, Tuscumbia, Arkansas, Ouachita, Brazos, East Texas, Western Texas, Central Texas, East Mississippi, Indian, and Creek Nation, each forty dollars—amounting to $720.

The aggregate of these assessments amounts to $3,140.

The committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the assessments upon the Presbyteries, as stated above, be adopted.

Resolved, That the price of the Minutes of the Assembly be

fixed at $2 for each copy, and that the Stated Clerk do sell them at that price.

Resolved, That the money received from the assessment, and from the sales of the Minutes, shall constitute a contingent fund out of which the Stated Clerk is directed to pay all the expenses of this Assembly; the travelling expenses of the committees of the Assembly and its other agents, whose expenses are payable by the Assembly.

In regard to the wider distribution of the Minutes of the Assembly proposed in the resolution referred to the committee, we would cheerfully concur in the views of the mover under more favorable circumstances. The cost of paper and printing is now very high, and the committee recommend that the circulation be enlarged, so that each Minister of our Church be furnished with a copy. We would recommend the same as to the Sessions, but for the reason above given.

Therefore, resolved, That a copy of the Minutes of the Assembly be sent annually to every Minister of our Church, free of charge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. C. PERRIN, *Chairman.*

The unfinished business of yesterday was now resumed, viz: the discussion of the motion to adopt the report of the Committee of Conference with the United Synod.

Pending this discussion, the Assembly adjourned until to-night at 8 o'clock. Closed with prayer by the Rev. David Wills.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, 8 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed; which, after further discussion, was, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon, referred to a special committee consisting of one Minister and one Ruling Elder from each Synod represented in this Assembly, to report at the earliest practicable moment touching the proper form of action to be taken by this body in the premises. The Assembly then, on motion, chose the Rev. Dr. Lyon as chairman of this committee; and the Moderator appointed the following additional members: J. M. McKee, D. Wills, D. A. Penick, Dr. Adger, R. F. Bunting, Dr. Dabney, and D. H. Cummins, *Ministers;* G. H. Dunlap, Sam'l Barnett, J. Patrick, J. G. Shep-

herd, G. McC. Witherspoon, J. T. L. Preston, and R. S. Stewart, *Ruling Elders.*

The Rev. Dr. Palmer, from the Standing Committee on Publication, presented the following report, which was adopted:

The committee to whom were referred the annual report of the Executive Committee of Publication, the Minutes of their Proceedings, and the Exhibit of the Treasurer, beg leave respectfully to report: That they have carefully examined these documents, and are sure that the grateful impression made upon the Assembly by the hearing of the report will be deepened when they shall peruse it in print. The evidence furnished by a comparison of these various papers affords corroborative and most gratifying proof of the diligence and zeal with which this department of the Church's work has been prosecuted during the past year. It is no small achievement, when the difficulties in the way of publishing at the present time are duly considered, that nearly fourteen millions of pages have been distributed over the land through this agency alone. This is but the earnest of what is hereafter to be accomplished in more auspicious and peaceful times, in the creation of an indigenous religious literature, which will soon be found to be one of the most urgent wants of the country and of the Church. Under this aspect, the operations of this committee must be viewed by us as of transcendent importance. Great as the work unquestionably is of supplying our heroic army with religious reading, it is surpassed in magnitude by what remains to be achieved in laying the foundations of a healthful literature for the country at large, and a literature which is to be perpetuated through all coming time. The wisdom which is treasured up in the English language forms, indeed, the common patrimony of all who speak the English tongue. But while we may lawfully appropriate this common stock to our own use, no people, aspiring to the dignity of a separate national existence, can decline the obligation of providing a literature for itself which shall reflect its own institutions, usages, and character. The Presbyterian Church in this Confederacy will bear her part in this necessary work, and looks to this Publication Committee as one of her most important agencies in the discharge of this public duty. It is, therefore, with regret that we read in the report submitted to this Assembly the statement that the contributions to this cause have not been universal throughout the Church. For, though the revenue of the past year has been more than sufficient to cover the expenditures of the committee, leaving a balance as the nucleus of the permanent working capital, contemplated by the last Assembly as important to be speedily realized, yet if the liberality had been uniform through the whole Church the committee would have found this work of endowment already handsomely begun.

The attention of this Assembly should be called to the deficiency in the salary of the Secretary, which, in the present inflated condition of the currency, is inadequate to meet his necessary wants. Your committee feel it to be unjust that a faithful servant of the Church should eat up his own shattered patrimony in his own support; and, against his earnest remonstrance, are compelled to urge that his salary be raised so as to cover at least his actual expenses. We are satisfied, also, that the whole amount necessary for this purpose should be drawn from the receipts into the Treasury of the Publication Department, upon the simple ground that our educational operations, being for the most part suspended during the war, the receipts into that treasury are very small, and the labors of the Secretary are almost exclusively devoted to the interests of publication.

The following resolutions are, therefore, submitted to the Assembly for adoption:

Resolved, 1. That the salary of the Secretary be raised by the committee for the ensuing year to an amount sufficient for his support, and that it be paid entirely from the Treasury of the Committee of Publication.

2. That the attention of all the churches in our communion be called to the importance of sustaining, with an enlarged and universal liberality, this branch of our great work—not only that the committee may efficiently meet the present and pressing wants of our people and of the army, but that a beginning may speedily be made in endowing a permanent fund for future operations.

3. That the Executive Committee be instructed to make early preparation for supplying our Sabbath-school libraries with suitable books for children, and thus to meet a want which begins already to be felt, and which will become urgent as soon as the country is allowed to enjoy the blessings and the repose of peace.

4. That the committee be instructed to return to the London Religious Tract Society the grateful thanks of this General Assembly for the kind and most timely donation of their publications for circulation among our troops; and to tender to the Rev. M. D. Hoge, D.D., their acknowledgment of his generous agency in procuring these grants.

5. That the reports of the Executive Committee and of the Treasurer be published in the Appendix to the Minutes, and that the former be circulated, at the discretion of the committee, as far as possible through the journals of the Church among our people.

In conclusion, the following persons are nominated for election as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:

Secretary—John Leyburn, D.D.

Treasurer—James Miller.

Members—T. V. Moore, D.D.; M. D. Hoge, D.D.; W. Brown, D.D.; Messrs. W. F. Taylor, B. R. Welford, Jr., Roger Martin, W. H. White, J. D. K. Sleight, W. D. Booke.

On motion of Mr. Logan, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer by the Rev. D. H. Cummins.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with the appointed devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Georgia reported, recommending their approval so far as written. Report adopted.

The Rev. R. McInnis, from the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions, presented the following report, which was received, amended, and adopted:

The committee to whom were referred the Minutes of the Executive Committee of Foreign Missions—their annual report and the report of the Treasurer—would submit the following for the adoption of the General Assembly:

1. They recommend the approval of these minutes and reports, and the election of the following officers and committee for the ensuing year:

For Secretary—Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D.
For Treasurer—Prof. James Woodrow.
For Commiteee—Rev. G. Howe, D.D.
Rev. J. B. Adger, D.D.
Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D.
Rev. J. R. Wilson, D.D.
Rev. A. A. Porter.
H. Muller, Esq.
A. Crawford, Esq.
R. L. Bryan, Esq.
Prof. Joseph LeConte.

2. Your committee would recommend that the Treasurer be required to give a bond of ten thousand ($10,000) dollars, and that an Auditing Committee be appointed by the Assembly, who shall not be members of the Executive Committee; and would nominate as that committee:

J. W. Aiken, of Winnsboro',
E. Nye Hutchison, of Charlotte, and
John A. Crawford, of Columbia.

The committee would further recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the General Assembly listened, with feelings of deep interest and gratitude to God, to the report of the Executive Committee on Foreign Missions, evincing such an earnest solicitude for the great work committed to their care; and while God in his providence has allowed our communication with foreign nations to be almost entirely prevented, yet we thank the great Head of the Church that we are still permitted to do something for the Indian tribes on our Western border.

2. That we record, with grateful hearts, the deep interest felt in the work of foreign missions by many of our churches, and trust that the time may soon come when we shall be permitted, as a Church, to engage fully in this important work.

3. That the General Assembly recommend to all our churches to continue their systematic contributions to and earnest prayers for this cause, so that, when it shall please God to open to us the way, we may be prepared to do our duty to God and to man in sending the gospel to the distant nations of the earth.

4. That the Assembly instruct the Executive Committee of Foreign Missions to increase the salary of the Secretary to such a sum as shall be required for his ample support.

5. That the report of the Secretary of Foreign Missions be published in the Appendix.

The report of the Union Theological Seminary was received, read, and referred to the appropriate standing committee.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. White, the report on the subject of Beneficiary Education was taken from the docket, and, after discussion, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, the following resolutions were adopted. (See Appendix for the report.)

1. *Resolved,* That the report of the committee is hereby adopted, as setting forth, with much clearness and force, the views of this Assembly on the question discussed in it, and it is earnestly recommended that it be published by the Committee of Publication for general circulation, and as one of their permanent tracts.

2. *Resolved,* That the committee be continued, and be requested to report to the next Assembly on the question, *whether the support of candidates for the ministry should be provided for and superintended by the General Assembly, or by the Presbyteries, or in what other way.*

On motion, it was further

3. *Resolved,* That Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick and Wm. L. Mitchell be added to the committee.

The Rev. Dr. Rice, from the Standing Committee on System-

atic Benevolence, presented the following report, which was received and adopted:

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence respectfully report:

The duty specially incumbent upon this committee is to give a condensed summary of the reports received from the several Presbyteries, so that the General Assembly may be fully informed as to the condition of the churches with respect to the grace of giving; and that such action may be taken as seems to be demanded and wisdom may direct, for attaining the great end for which the General Assembly has been laboring for many years.

The grand result toward which all our efforts are directed is threefold:

1st. That every member of the Church, whether rich or poor, should contribute something in every year for the promotion of the cause of Christ in the world.

2d. That the contributions of the churches should be made systematically and punctually, according to the best plan that the wisdom of the whole Church can devise.

3d. That the gifts of the Lord's people should be regulated and measured by the great law of proportion laid down in the Word of God: That every one should give as the Lord hath prospered them.

The questions which here naturally arise are:

1st. To what extent have our people performed their duty? What progress have they made during the past year in cultivating the grace of giving?

2d. What action ought this General Assembly to take now, with the design of securing a more general as well as more earnest attention to the subject of Systematic Benevolence?

The materials requisite for giving an answer to the first of these questions, on this occasion, are exceedingly meagre—reports having been received from only five of the Presbyteries, viz: Fayetteville, Concord, Tuscaloosa, Montgomery, and Lexington. There is a considerable difference between the reports, some of them stating the number of collections which ought to have been taken as compared with the contributions actually made; others, in addition to this, give the aggregate amounts of money realized; while others only state, in general terms, that the plan of giving systematically is beginning to be more extensively adopted within their bounds, and with encouraging results. Items contained in the Narratives of the State of Religion sent up by some of the Presbyteries, as well as verbal statements made by several commissioners, whose Presbyteries have made no formal report, seem to indicate that the duty of systematic giving has been performed in some degree by many other churches; and yet, after all that can be said, it is manifest

that many of our churches have almost, if not entirely, failed to make any contributions toward the benevolent operations of the Church.

It is also evident that churches destitute of pastors, and irregularly supplied with the ministrations of the Word, are very much disposed to postpone attention to this subject, and to neglect the duty of giving until they can secure the stated preaching of the Word, however long the period may be.

It is undoubtedly true that, at the present time, much of the neglect of the duty of giving, as well as the failure of the Presbyteries to report to this Assembly, is to be attributed to the unsettled state of the country, and the confusion and disorder caused by the war which is still raging in so many parts of our territory. But, after making all due allowance for the present distress, we are constrained to acknowledge that there is great need of increased faithfulness and diligence on the part of Presbyteries, pastors, and church sessions, in instructing and guiding the people committed to their care in the exercise of this noble grace and this high privilege of the Christian man. And the necessity of this greater diligence becomes all the greater in these days of peril and affliction. This, of all others, is not the time for the people of God to disregard any obligation imposed upon them by His boundless love; and seasons of great trial, of affliction, and deep poverty, are peculiarly appropriate to the abounding of the riches of their liberality. So that the children of God ought to contribute the more liberally, not in spite of but because of the pressure of present distress, and in the midst of losses and poverty.

With reference to action by this Assembly, your committee have nothing new to suggest, but would simply recommend that the Assembly solemnly reaffirm every testimony which has been given in former days as to the duty, the necessity, and the blessedness of giving of our substance to the Lord, to his Church, and to his poor. And that the injunctions heretofore laid upon Presbyteries, pastors, and the sessions of the churches, be now reiterated, and especially that the sessions of vacant churches be affectionately enjoined to see to it that all the flock over which the Holy Ghost has made them overseers are, by all wise and lawful means, incited to the duty, and secured the privilege of giving of their worldly substance to the Lord, even as he has prospered them.

All of which is submitted most respectfully.

JOHN H. RICE, *Chairman.*

The Rev. Mr. Sprunt, from the Standing Committee on Leave of Absence, reported that they have granted to the Rev. N. T. Bowdon, of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, leave of absence from the remaining sessions of the General Assembly.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Palmer, it was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning to proceed to the election of Secretaries and Treasurers of Foreign and Domestic Missions, and of Publication and Education, and also of the members of the Executive Committees to which shall be committed these objects.

The Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Wilson and the Rev. Dr. Waddel, delegates respectively to the Associate Reformed Synod of the South and to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, reported, and their reports were accepted.

The Rev. Dr. Rice offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Revision of the Form of Government and Book of Discipline be directed to take also into consideration the Directory of Worship, and to inquire whether any, and if so, what changes are needed to make the Directory conform to the Government and Discipline.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, the unfinished business of Friday last was taken up, viz: the consideration of the resolution to instruct the Committee on the Revision of the Form of Government to consider the propriety of making certain changes in the mode of representation in the General Assembly; and this resolution was, on motion of J. T. Walsh, laid on the table.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. White, the time for the meeting of the next General Assembly was fixed for the *third Thursday* in May, 1865, at eleven o'clock, A. M.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Virginia reported, recommending their approval so far as written. Adopted.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, to take up the postponed second order of the day for Monday, viz: to hear the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly to report on the subject-matter of the Address read before the Assembly in Columbia touching the religious instruction of the negroes.

On motion of Judge Shepherd, the Assembly called for the report of the committee on the report of the Committee of Conference with the United Synod; which accordingly was read by the chairman, the Rev. Dr. Lyon; and, on motion of the Rev. R. McInnis, it was resolved to consider the report *seriatim*.

Previously to taking the vote upon this report, the Assembly, on motion of the Rev. D. A. Penick, was led in prayer for divine direction by the Rev. Dr. White.

The report was then, after some discussion, adopted *seriatim*, and is as follows:

The General Assembly having received the report of the committee appointed last year to confer with a similar committee of the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church on the subject of the union of the two bodies, and having heard the explanatory statements accompanying the said report, do hereby adopt the following resolutions as expressive of their views on the whole subject, viz:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly express their approval of the diligence and fidelity of the committee in regard to the important trust with which they were charged, and also the great satisfaction with which they have heard of the brotherly love and spirit of harmony in which the conference of the two committees was held.

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly believe the most satisfactory terms of union to be the cordial adherence of the two bodies to their existing symbols of faith and order.

Resolved, 3. That the report of the committee be adopted after amendment in the following particulars, viz: 1. From the preamble omit the words "removing the dishonor done to religion by former separations," and modify the provisions as to the name and charter. 2. Omit all of the first article after the first paragraph. 3. Amend the second article, so as in every case to require the reception of the Presbyteries under the care of the United Synod into the Synods of this Assembly, so as to preserve the undoubted succession of the latter; and add to the article the following words, viz: "Should providential hindrances prevent the consummation of any of the measures above mentioned during the year 1864, they shall take effect as soon thereafter as practicable." 4. Omit all after the words "in full force," in the last article.

The plan of union, as thus amended, is as follows, viz:

The General Assembly and the United Synod of the Presbyterian Churches in the Confederate States of America, holding the same system of doctrine and church order, and believing that their union will glorify God by promoting peace and increasing their ability for the edification of the Body of Christ, do agree to unite under the name of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, and under the existing charter of the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, on the following basis, viz:

Article I. The General Assembly and the United Synod de-

clare that they continue sincerely to receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, and approve of its government and discipline.

ARTICLE II. The General Assembly and the United Synod hereby agree that the Presbyteries composing the Synod of Virginia, under the care of the United Synod, together with the Presbytery of New River, shall be received into the Synod of Virginia, under the care of the General Assembly, at their meeting in Lexington, on the day of October, 1864. The Presbytery of Texas, under the care of the United Synod, shall be received into the Synod of Texas, under the care of the General Assembly, at its next meeting. The Presbyteries of Lexington, South Clinton, and Newton, under the care of the United Synod, shall be received into the Synod of Mississippi, under the care of the General Assembly, at their meeting in Brandon, on the day of October, 1864. The Presbyteries of Holston, Union, and Kingston, under the care of the United Synod, shall be received into the Synod of Nashville, under the care of the General Assembly, at their next meeting. And the ministers and churches of the Presbytery of North Alabama, under the care of the United Synod, which are within the State of Alabama, shall be united to the Synod of Memphis, and those churches and ministers of such Presbytery which are within the State of Tennessee, to the Synod of Nashville. And the Presbytery of Osage, under the care of the United Synod, shall be attached to the Synod of Arkansas, under the care of the General Assembly. Should providential hindrances prevent the consummation of any of the measures above mentioned during the year 1864, they shall take effect as soon thereafter as practicable.

ARTICLE III. These Synods, at their annual meetings, or as soon thereafter as practicable, shall define the boundaries of Presbyteries, where ministers and churches, under the care of the General Assembly and of the United Synod, exist in the same territory, and shall so distribute said ministers and churches that those within the same geographical limits shall not belong to different Presbyteries. It is recommended that, in such changes, that Presbytery shall hold its name and succession which has the major number of ministers, and shall receive the records and presbyterial funds of the other Presbytery, assuming also its existing pecuniary obligations. And it is agreed that no other condition shall be required of the members constituting said Presbyteries except the approval of this plan of union.

ARTICLE IV. Whenever organized churches, under the care of the General Assembly and the United Synod, exist in the same neighborhood—if their union is necessary to the successful sustentation of the Gospel—they are affectionately exhorted to unite immediately, postponing private convenience to the glory of God. But no organized churches, or existing compacts with

pastors or stated supplies, shall be extinguished by this act of union, except they voluntarily agree to combine with neighboring churches. And when such union of churches takes place, they, with their sessions, shall be organized under the direction of their own Presbyteries.

Article V.—Inasmuch as the General Assembly and the United Synod have similar agencies for aiding pious youth in their education for the ministry, for circulating divine truth by printing, and for missions, home and foreign, it is agreed that the committees of the General Assembly, from and after the union, shall receive and sustain, according to existing compacts, all colporteurs, beneficiaries studying for the ministry, and home and foreign missionaries then under the care of the United Synod, as well as those of the General Assembly; and that all funds and other property now held for the above objects by the United Synod, or its committees or other agencies, shall be passed over to the appropriate committees of the General Assembly. And these committees shall thereafter solicit contributions for these evangelical labors in all the churches alike, as they are enabled.

Article VI.—Whenever the above written plan of union shall have been adopted by the General Assembly and the United Synod, it shall be in full force.

4. *Resolved*, That the Assembly proposes the omission of the doctrinal propositions of article I on the following ground solely, viz: That, believing the approval of those propositions by the Committees of Conference, and extensively among both bodies, has served a valuable purpose, by presenting satisfactory evidence of such harmony and soundness of doctrinal views as may ground an honorable union, the Assembly does yet judge that it is most prudent to unite on the basis of our existing standards only, inasmuch as no actual necessity for other declarations of belief in order to a happy union now exist.

Before the vote was taken upon the report as a whole, the Assembly adjourned, to meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Closed with prayer by the Rev. R. Bell.

Thursday Afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer by the Rev. J. C. Alexander.

The Rev. Dr. Adger, from the Standing Committee on Education, presented the following report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education would report that they have examined the papers submitted to them, and have nothing to recommend in addition to what has been recommended by our colleagues of the Standing Committee of Publication relative to the salary of the Secretary. The committee would suggest that, although at present the Church's educational work is interrupted by the war, yet that will one day come to an end, and it is highly important that this object be kept before her eye by the Church, and receive her uninterrupted contributions of pecuniary support. There will be, it is hoped, many of our young soldiers brought by the Lord into the ministry after the present day of sorrow and strife shall have passed away. Many of these will need the Church's support while pursuing their preparatory studies. It is well that our collections for this end are constantly and systematically made, notwithstanding the fact that our candidates for the ministry are for the present necessarily so few.

The committee nominate as members of the Executive Committee of Education for the ensuing year the following Ministers and Elders, viz: the same that are named in the report of the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Rev. Dr. Adger offered the following report of the committee named therein, which was received and adopted:

The committee appointed by the last Assembly to prepare an answer to the overture respecting Baptism, recorded on page 136 of the Minutes of the last Assembly, would recommend to this Assembly the adoption of the following:

The question, "Unto *what* were ye baptized?" is, without doubt, of vital importance. This Assembly holds, with Calvin, that "a sacrament is an external sign by which the Lord seals His promises upon our conscience," and that "it is a fixed point that the office of the sacrament differs not from the Word of God, and this is to hold forth and offer Christ to us, and in Him the treasures of the heavenly grace." (Inst., Book iv, chap. 14, sections 1–17.) This Assembly holds also, with Pictet, that the sacrament of baptism was instituted in order to set forth "the blood and the Spirit of Christ: our justification by His blood, and our sanctification by His Spirit." (Book xv, chap. 11, section 3.) It holds, with the Reformed Church in general, that baptism was designed to signify and seal our fellowship with Christ in his death and resurrection, with all the benefits thereof, among which are the remission of sins, regeneration, and eternal life. These things being so, of course a baptism administered and received in attestation of falsehood, can not be valid Christian baptism. This is the ground upon which our Church has rejected Romish baptism.

But it is equally clear that some distinctions must be made in reference to the cases to which this principle is to be applied.

1. We can not say that errors, even very serious errors, in the apprehensions with which a person receives baptism, necessarily render it invalid. If it be rightly administered, and he should wrongly conceive of it, we are not to repeat the baptism afterward when he becomes better informed.

2. We can not even say that serious errors in the teachings of the individual administrator render it necessary to repeat baptism. He baptizes by authority from the Church that ordains him, and the baptism which he administers is to be judged according to her doctrines, and not those of each one of her individual ministers.

The first inquiry which arises upon a consideration of the overture submitted to us, is: Does baptism symbolize the burial of Christ? This Assembly holds that baptism symbolizes the burial of Christ only in the sense in which the Apostle speaks of our being buried with Christ in baptism. What that sense is in both the passages where the phrase occurs, we consider to be very clear, viz: as merely embodying an intensive form of the idea of death. The Apostle's object is to set forth the believer's being one with Christ in His dying; and, with characteristic warmth, he says not only that we are dead with Christ, but buried with him. It is just as when we intend to declare, with emphasis, to any person the certainty of another's death, we often say not only that he is dead, but that he is dead and buried. We do not perceive any allusion to immersion in Paul's language, either in Colossians 2, xii, or in Romans 6, iv; nor does the intelligent Haldane, in his Commentary on Romans, point out any, although himself a Baptist.

Indeed, there was nothing in the mode of our Saviour's burial which could possibly have suggested any such allusion to the writer of those epistles. Our Lord was not buried *down in the earth* as *we* bury our dead, and as he must have been buried if his burial had been intended to be symbolized by the believer's immersion in and rising out of what is so often called "the liquid grave;" but he was laid away in a chamber hewn out of the rock, and a great stone was rolled to the door thereof. Surely there was nothing in the mode of our Lord's entrance into the sepulchre which resembles, in the slightest degree, the immersion of a believer under the water.

The next question is, whether the ordinance is invalidated by the notion, on the part of the recipient and the administrator both, that baptism is symbolic of the mode of our Saviour's burial. This question is presented before us in the overture in two forms: *First*, whether this apprehension solely, and *Secondly*, whether this apprehension prevailingly, is error sufficient to invalidate the ordinance?

The proper answer to both these questions we conceive to be,

that the prevalence of this idea in either form is not enough to invalidate the ordinance, unless it exclude positively the true idea of baptism, viz: that it sets forth the death of Christ. It appears to us that those who hold that baptism symbolizes Christ's burial must all do so with this apprehension, that it symbolizes His burial—He *being dead.* So long as this is the case, the Assembly can not take it upon them to say that the erroneous conception referred to makes it necessary to repeat the baptism accompanying it, if otherwise rightly administered. That baptism does signify real pardon of sin, purification from it by His Spirit, and engrafting into Christ so that we become one with Him, in His dying and in His rising, there can be no question. Christ is the *matter* or *substance* of the sacrament. It sets him forth to us as crucified for us, and raised for our justification. Let these truths not be shut out of view, and the application of water to the person, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, by any duly authorized Christian minister, is valid baptism.

For the committee, JNO. B. ADGER, *Chairman.*

On motion, the Assembly then resolved to take the final vote by ayes and nays upon the report which was adopted *seriatim* this morning; it being understood that each member voting, whether aye or nay, shall have the privilege of explaining the reasons for his vote, to be spread upon this record. The ayes and nays are as follows:

AYES—James M. McKee, E. Anderson, A. M. Watson, A. Y. Lockridge, James Little, John W. Reid, David Wills, L. B. Gaston, D. H. Cummins, S. D. Stuart, John H. Rice, D.D., Robt. Bell, A. McCallum, R. McInnis, James A. Lyon, D.D., D. A. Penick, J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D., J. M. Sprunt, James C. Alexander, Edward Hines, T. W. Erwin, Philip Pierson, I. J. Long, Ferdinand Jacobs, M. D. Hoge, D.D., Wm. S. White, D.D., John R. Dow, T. L. Preston, P. Tinsley Penick, R. L. Dabney, D.D., R. F. Bunting—*Ministers:* B. A. Glass, S. A. Walkup, G. H. Dunlap, David Ardis, J. M. W. Davidson, W. L. Mitchell, James Patrick, Samuel Barnett, R. S. Stewart, Charles Lynn, J. N. Cook, D. A Davis, J. G. Shepherd, James D. Armstrong, G. McC. Witherspoon, Joseph T. Walsh, S. McD. Reid, J. T. L. Preston, A. Crawford, J. B. I. Logan, Geo. W. Tinsley—*Ruling Elders.* 53.

NAYS—Angus Johnson, B. M. Palmer, D.D., A. A. Porter, J. B. Adger, D.D.—*Ministers:* James McCreight, John W. Simpson, T. C. Perrin—*Ruling Elders.* 7.

The following explanations of the foregoing votes have been presented for record:

"To resolution 4th I dissent. P. PIERSON."

"I acquiesce, without approval, in the proposed plan of union; but voted against the report on account of the 4th resolution, from which I dissent. B. M. PALMER."

"To resolution 4th I dissent; to all the other parts of the report I assent. JAMES McCREIGHT."

"John H. Rice, who voted aye, dissents from a part of the action, viz: that in the enacting clause of the act of union with the United Synod, it is stated that the union is formed under the existing charter of the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America; thus making an act of the legislature of one of the Confederate States a bond of ecclesiastical union between the Presbyterian Church and the United Synod, and mingling the things of Cæsar and the things of God in the same ecclesiastical act."

"I voted aye, excepting, however, to the 4th resolution.
"A. M. WATSON."

"In the final adoption of the paper, that the desired union might be consummated, I voted in the affirmative, at the same time, however, dissenting entirely from the 4th and last resolution. T. W. ERWIN."

"The undersigned avails himself of the privilege accorded him by the Assembly, and feels it to be his duty to state that he doubts whether the Presbytery he represents will cordially approve his vote. He believes that a general regret prevails that a proposition to unite the two bodies was ever made; but, in view of all the circumstances as they now exist, and the fact that his opinions previously formed have been greatly modified, and his prejudices mostly removed by listening to the able discussions on the subject in this Assembly, he has come to the conclusion that the proposed union ought to be consummated, and voted *yea*. G. H. DUNLAP,
"*Elder from Tuscaloosa Presbytery.*"

"This Assembly having voted to allow dissentients and others to record upon its Minutes an explanation of their votes on the question of union with the United Synod, I state that I dissent from the whole proceeding on the ground that it makes the Assembly to be of unlimited powers; on the ground of its being practically a letting-down of the Church's testimony in 1837; and on the ground of its tendency to give rise to future troubles and divisions in our Church. JOHN B. ADGER."

"I voted against the reception of the United Synod on the following grounds: 1st. For want of confidence in the doctrinal soundness of the entire body. 2d. Because the doctrinal basis agreed upon by the committees in conference is not sufficiently explicit. ANGUS JOHNSON."

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon, the following delegates to correspond with the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church were appointed, viz: Rev. Wm. Brown, D.D., and F. N. Watkins, principals; with R. L. Dabney, D.D., and J. B. I. Logan, alternates.

The Rev. Dr. Dabney, from the Standing Committee on Domestic Missions, presented the following report, which was amended and adopted:

The Standing Committee on Domestic Missions report to the Assembly that they have examined the Report and Minutes of Proceedings of the Executive Committee of Domestic Missions, and recommend that their faithfulness and success be heartily commended and their measures approved. They also recommend:

2. That Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D., be appointed the Assembly's *Secretary*, and Prof. James Woodrow the Assembly's *Treasurer*, for the ensuing year.

3. That the following persons be appointed the Executive Committee of Domestic Missions for the ensuing year: Rev. Geo. Howe, D.D., Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D., Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., Rev. A. A. Porter, Rev. Jos. R. Wilson, D.D., Mr. Henry Muller, Mr. Andrew Crawford, Prof. Joseph LeConte, and Mr. R. L. Bryan.

4. That the Assembly appoint annually a committee of three, unconnected with the Executive Committee, to audit all the accounts of the Treasurer; that it be made the duty of the Treasurer to have the report of these auditors endorsed upon his account before laying it before the Assembly; and that the Auditing Committee for the ensuing year consist of Messrs. John Crawford, of Columbia, E. Nye Hutchison, of Charlotte, and Jas. R. Aiken, of Winnsboro'.

5. That the Executive Committee be instructed to pay a suitable salary to the Treasurer, and to require of him a bond of ten thousand dollars to the Trustees of the General Assembly, with good securities, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

6. That the Assembly adopt the following:

The Assembly, reasserting the high importance and superior interest of the armies of the Confederate States as fields of missionary labor during the war, and bidding the Executive Committee God-speed in their laudable exertions to occupy it more fully, instruct them:

(1). To spare no reasonable pains and expense to send a Special Commissioner to the department of trans-Mississippi to assist any laborers now in that field.

(2). To make a judicious distribution of the ministers in their employ between the work of the commissioned chaplain and the permanent missionary, giving the larger number to the

former work, yet so as to retain the advantages of both systems, and to distribute their aid in such manner as to secure, if possible, one minister of our Church in each brigade of the armies.

7. That the Assembly earnestly advise all Presbyteries, as to those labors which they may attempt for the armies, so to perform them in concert with the Executive Committee and Secretary, that the whole force of the Church may have unity and connexion; and that, instead of dissipating the efforts of many ministers in temporary services, often evanescent in their effect, such number of their members as the great work may demand, well chosen for energy and zeal, be released for the service of these missions, and the remainder render their indirect aid by supplying the charges of these during their absence. But the Assembly does by no means depreciate the usefulness of even the shortest visits of pastors to the troops, and encourages all to undertake them as they have opportunity.

8. That the Assembly returns devout thanks to God for His wonderful works of grace in the armies, in which, we are informed, twelve thousand souls, during the last year, are supposed to have made a hopeful profession of faith in Christ.

9. That the Assembly, having engaged in frequent and solemn acts of devotion to intercede for our brave soldiers and their officers and commanding generals, does earnestly exhort all the ministers, churches, and people, in like manner, to constant supplications in the same behalf.

The Rev. David Wills presented the following report from the *ad interim* committee on the Support of Superannuated and Disabled Ministers and the Families of Deceased Ministers; which, after discussion, was laid on the table for the present:

The committee to whom was referred the subject of Affording Relief to Disabled Ministers, and the Wives and Families of Deceased Ministers, beg leave to report to the General Assembly at Charlotte, N. C., the following resolutions, and recommend their adoption:

Resolved, 1. That the form of a call to a pastor prescribed in the Form of Government be enlarged and amended so as to read: "And that you may be free from worldly cares and avocations, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to pay to you the sum of in regular quarterly (half-yearly or yearly) payments, during the time of your being and continuing the regular pastor of this church; and should you become disabled, or depart this life, whilst you are the regular pastor of this church, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to furnish you, or, when you are dead, your family, with all proper support, including the education of your children." And that the last question proposed to the people at the instalment of the pastor be enlarged and amended so as to read: "And do you

engage to continue to him, while he is your pastor, that competent worldly maintenance which you have promised, and whatever else you may see needful for the honor of religion, and his comfort among you; and should he become disabled, or depart this life, while he is your pastor, do you engage to furnish him, or, when he is dead, his family, with all proper support, including the education of his children ?"

Resolved, 2. That the General Assembly raise a permanent fund, by inviting the contributions of individuals and churches, by donation, bequest, and devise, and place the same in the hands of its trustees or other committee for investment, the income of which shall be applied to the support of disabled evangelists and missionaries, their widows and children, in such amount and in such manner as may be considered practicable and expedient; and when it shall be made to appear upon the representation of the session of a church that the support which they had promised to furnish to their disabled pastor, or, when he is dead, to his family, as contemplated in the foregoing resolution, can not be furnished by reason of the inability of said church, it shall be the duty of the said trustees or other committee to inquire into the matter, and apply to the relief of such pastor, or his family, when he is dead, such amount of the income of said permanent fund, and in such way, as may be deemed practicable and expedient.

Resolved, 3. That it shall be the duty of the trustees or other committee of the Assembly to invest any surplus income from year to year, to make annual reports to the Assembly, and to prepare and keep before the public proper forms of gifts, bequests, and devises.

Resolved, 4. That these resolutions be transmitted to the several Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America for approval, and to take effect when declared by the General Assembly to be approved by a majority of the Presbyteries.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. W. Lane,
David Wills,
E. A. Nisbet,
Washington Poe,
Wm. L. Mitchell,
Committee ad interim of the Assembly of 1863.

The Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, from the Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following report, which was adopted :

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence would report that there does not seem a necessity for our doing more at this time than to nominate delegates to the bodies with whom we

are in correspondence. We nominate, as delegate to the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, Rev. G. Howe, D.D., and Rev. William Banks, alternate; to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Rev. J. N. Waddel, D.D., and Rev. W. A. Harrison, alternate; to the German Reformed Synod of the South, Rev. D. A. Penick, Sr., and Rev. J. Henry Smith, alternate; and the brethren this day appointed Commissioners to the United Synod of the South touching the matter of union, to be our delegates to that body under the regulations for correspondence.

We would also mention that, since the meeting of the last Assembly, the Independent Presbyterian Church with which we held correspondence has been merged into our own Church by the action of the Synod of South Carolina and the Bethel Presbytery, taken in compliance with a reference made by the General Assembly.

On motion of T. C. Perrin, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That there be now established, as one of the Standing Executive Committees of the Assembly, a Committee of Finance, consisting of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, together with the Treasurer of the Assembly, to whom shall be referred all the financial matters of the Assembly connected with the publication of the Minutes, and the providing of ways and means to meet the annual expenses of the Assembly; and that this committee be required to report as the other Executive Committees, annually, to the General Assembly.

On motion, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock. Closed with prayer by the Rev. Ferdinand Jacobs.

Friday Morning, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with devotional exercises, continued for half an hour.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Rev. A. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, the *Synod of Memphis* failed to meet on its adjournment in 1863; therefore,

Resolved, by this Assembly, that the Synod of Memphis is hereby ordered to meet in Covington, Tenn., on Wednesday before the fourth Sabbath in October, at seven o'clock, P. M.

The Rev. J. M. Sprunt, from the Standing Committee on Leave of Absence, reported that leave of absence had been granted from the remaining sessions of the Assembly to Thos. M. Holt, Orange Presbytery; S. A. Walkup, Flint River Presbytery; G. W. Tinsley, East Hanover Presbytery; and J. M. Patrick, Mississippi Presbytery.

The following reports from the delegates respectively appointed to correspond with the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church and with the Convention of the Independent Presbyterian Church, were received:

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *May* 13, 1864.

To the Moderator of the Assembly:

REV. AND DEAR SIR: The delegate appointed by the last Assembly to represent the Church in the approaching session of the United Synod, held at Knoxville, Tennessee, begs leave respectfully to report that, in consequence of the incursions of the enemy near his home in Mississippi, at the time of the meeting of that body, he was not able to accomplish that mission.

Your brother in Christ, JAMES A. LYON.

CHESTER C. H., *May* 6, 1864.

To the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States:

DEAR BRETHREN: According to the appointment of the last Assembly, it was my privilege to convey to the Convention of the Independent Presbyterian Church the salutations of our Church. The Assembly will be pleased to learn that our mission has resulted in the union of that body of the Presbyterian family with our own Church on the basis proposed by the Synod of South Carolina, to whom the subject was referred by the last Assembly.

Invoking the special presence of the Spirit of wisdom and grace upon you,

I am, fraternally, yours, JAMES E. WHITE.

The Rev. Dr. White, from the Judicial Committee, reported that there was no business submitted to their consideration, and requested that the committee be discharged. Granted.

The first order of the day was then taken up, viz: the election of Secretaries, and Treasurers, and Executive Committees of Domestic Missions, Foreign Missions, Publication, and Education.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Lyon, the order to elect by ballot was, in consideration of the fact that there was but one set of nominations, set aside, and the Assembly proceeded to vote by acclamation. The following nominations, made on yesterday, were accordingly confirmed unanimously:

DOMESTIC MISSIONS AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Secretary.—Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D.

Treasurer.—Rev. James Woodrow.

Executive Committee.—Rev. George Howe, D.D., Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D., Rev. J. B. Adger, D.D., Rev. A. A. Porter, Rev. Joseph R. Wilson, D.D., Mr. Henry Muller, Mr. Andrew Crawford, Prof. Joseph LeConte, and Mr. R. L. Bryan.

PUBLICATION AND EDUCATION.

Secretary.—Rev. John Leyburn, D.D.

Treasurer.—James Miller.

Executive Committee.—Rev. T. V. Moore, D.D., Rev. M. D. Hoge, D.D., Rev. Wm. Brown, D.D., Messrs. Wm. F. Taylor, B. R. Welford, Jr., Roger Martin, W. H. White, J. D. K. Sleight, W. D. Cooke.

The second order of the day, viz: to hear the report of the Committee on the Religious Instruction, etc., of the Negroes—was called up, when the Rev. Dr. Lyon, chairman of said committee, proceeded to read said report, which was discussed.

Pending this discussion, on motion of W. L. Mitchell, the Assembly heard, in connection with Dr. Lyon's report, a minority report, which was presented and read by the Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D., a member of the above-named committee.

On motion of W. L. Mitchell, these reports were both referred to a committee, of which Dr. Dabney shall be the chairman, to report action with reference to them to this Assembly, if practicable, and if not, to the next Assembly. The other members of this committee were announced by the Moderator as follows: the Rev. R. McInnis, Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, W. L. Mitchell, and Samuel Barnett.

The Rev. Dr. Hoge, from the Standing Committee on Theological Seminaries, presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

The Committee on Theological Seminaries report to the General Assembly that they have had under consideration the report of the Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary, of date July 22, 1863, and the reports of the Faculty and Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, of the months of April and May respectively, for 1864.

These reports bring to the attention of your committee the painful fact that the number of students in these seminaries has been very small, owing to the continuance of the war; but we find encouragement in the consideration that the students of these institutions who, in obedience to the call of patriotism, have enlisted in the service of the country, are not only in the field of duty, but one in which they are receiving a training which will prepare them for a larger measure of usefulness when, having completed their theological studies, they go forth to the service of the Church in the Gospel ministry.

There is also ground of encouragement in the hope that, since it has pleased God so copiously to pour out His Spirit upon our armies, composed as they are to so large an extent of young men, that, at the return of peace, a greater number of the youth of the Confederacy will become candidates for the holy ministry than at any former period of the history of the country.

The committee recommend that the amendments to the Constitution, suggested by the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of South Carolina and Georgia, be concurred in by the Assembly, viz:

1. That article I, section 2, be changed so as to read: "The Board of Directors shall be annually appointed in the same way as the other Executive Committees of the body, and shall meet at the Seminary on the second Tuesday in June, at 8 o'clock, P. M., subsequent to their appointment; and the old members shall continue in office till this organization is completed."

2. That article IV, section 2, be amended to read as follows: "The Board, after its organization, shall meet as often as it shall be called together by the chairman or any two of its members, who are hereby empowered to convene it. Five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. It may enact by-laws for its government, the same being subject to the revisal of the Assembly."

3. Amend article I, section 3, so that the last word "them," be superseded by the words "the Board."

4. Amend article II, section 3, so as to strike out what occurs in the sentence next to the last, the words commencing with the third line and ending with the period, and insert instead, "And shall report in writing the state of the Seminary to the Assembly, and shall also submit the same to the Board before sending it up to the Assembly."

5. Amend article I, section 4, by striking out the words "of their talents, piety, and prudence."

6. Amend article II, section 4, by striking out the first sentence, so as to begin with, "these testimonials being satisfactory, they shall be admitted," etc.

7. That section VI be stricken out altogether.

The report of the Faculty and the Board of Directors each communicates to the Assembly the sad intelligence of the physical inability of the venerable Dr. Leland, for thirty years a professor in that institution, any longer to discharge the duties of his chair. His colleagues have divided among themselves the duties hitherto devolving upon him.

Your committee concur in the recommendation of the board that Dr. Leland be appointed professor *emeritus*, and that for the time being he receive the same salary as hitherto.

The Rev. Dr. Adger, after conference with his Presbytery and with the Board of Directors, and with the concurrence of each, consented to become a stated supply to the church of Pendleton (lately bereaved by the death of its pastor), while at the same time he continues to discharge the duties of his chair in the seminary.

Your committee express their approval of this arrangement under the circumstances, and recommend that it receive the sanction of the Assembly.

The Assembly is hereby apprised that the appointment of Rev. Dr. Palmer as Provisional Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology has expired. The committee recommend that Rev. Dr. Palmer be appointed to fill that chair, provisionally, for one year.

The committee recommend that the Assembly proceed to appoint as the Board of Directors of the Seminary the following persons:

Andrew Crawford, *Treasurer*.

Ministers.—Rev. John Douglas, Rev. J. R. Wilson, D.D., Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D.D., Rev. Samuel H. Hay, Rev. E. P. Palmer, Rev. Rufus K. Porter, Rev. Wm. Banks.

Ruling Elders.—Hon. T. C. Perrin, Hon. J. A. Inglis, J. A. Ansley, Esq.

In the report of the Directors of Union Theological Seminary nothing is proposed requiring any action on the part of the Assembly, except the following resolution, adopted at their meeting on May 13, 1862:

Resolved, That the Synods be requested to change the close of the session from the second Monday in May to the last Thursday in April, so as to allow time for the report of the directors to reach the General Assembly of the same year; and the succeeding session commence on the last Thursday of August ensuing.

The Assembly is requested to assent to the above, that when acted on by the Synods it shall be in force.

Your committee, in conclusion, would congratulate the Assembly and the Church that the important work of completing the endowments of these two seminaries has been prosecuted so successfully, and they take occasion to express the earnest hope that the day is not far distant when, in the good providence of God, these institutions may be enabled to resume their full work, with their halls filled with students, to go forth through long succeeding years of prosperity and peace for the proclamation of the Gospel in our own and in foreign lands.

MOSES D. HOGE, *Chairman.*

The Rev. David Wills, from the Standing Committee on the Narrative, presented a report, which was adopted. (See Appendix.)

The Rev. Dr. Lyon, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 2, with its answer, which was adopted, as follows:

The Presbytery of Hopewell respectfully overtures the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America to make a deliverance on the subject of licensing colored exhorters and preachers to labor among our colored population; and, if deemed advisable, to take some action, prescribing a mode of licensure for such laborers, and defining their *status* when thus licensed.

A true extract from the Minutes of the sessions of Hopewell Presbytery, held at Sparta, Ga., March, 1864.

C. W. LANE,
Stated Clerk pro tem.

Overture No. 2.—The Assembly would refer the subject of authorizing colored men to exhort, and teach, and labor among the colored population, to the wisdom and discretion of Church Sessions, until some suitable plan for the religious instruction of colored people can be devised by the Assembly.

The following overture was presented, and the same referred to a committee of three, of which Rev. Dr. E. T. Baird shall be chairman, with instructions to report upon the subject-matter thereof to the next Assembly. The other members of this committee were announced by the Moderator as follows: Rev. Dr. J. R. Wilson and Rev. Dr. J. A. Lyon.

In view of the fact that efforts have already been made to secure the permanent organization among us of voluntary societies, to take the place of certain national societies from which we have been separated by the present revolution, the General Assembly is hereby overtured to take the subject under consid-

eration, and to appoint a committee to report to the next Assembly whatever action they may deem needful, in order to secure the rights of the Presbyterian Church in so many of them as that venerable court may find needful, and may be prepared to recommend to the churches under its care for their co-operation. It is further overtured that the said committee be instructed to take into consideration the propriety of the Assembly's making a deliverance announcing her position in the following particulars:

1. The Presbyterian Church holds that God has committed the whole work of the publication of the Gospel, and the ingathering of sinners into His Kingdom, to His Church in its organized capacity, which is a divinely called and constituted Missionary and Bible Society. The officers of that Church are those to whom, by divine vocation, the executive administration of the affairs of the Church has been committed; insomuch that no part of the work of the Church has been left intrusted to irresponsible organizations, associations, or societies; nor does God confer authority on any in the conducting of the affairs of His Kingdom for a pecuniary consideration.

2. The national societies of the North have been a source of much trouble and a cause of constant anxiety to the Presbyterian Church. Some of them she was compelled, many years ago, to exclude from her pulpits, and others of them have frequently given her much cause of complaint; and several times she has been constrained to interfere in order to prevent proceedings, hurtful in their tendency or wrong in principle, which she could not tolerate.

3. The principle on which these national societies are organized, viz: that of voluntary association—is contrary to the doctrine of the Bible, and of the mass of Protestant Christendom, that the Church is a divine organization, and its duties are obligatory on all of Christ's people. The terms of membership, moreover, and the principle on which men secure influence and gain control in these societies, is a species of simony, since the one and the other are purchased by money. Against this principle and practice the Presbyterian Church must ever protest.

4. The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, and the symbols of the bulk of Protestant Churches, recognize the propriety of holding General Councils of the Church, either national or œcumenical. This principle may be made available here; and Councils or Conventions of the Protestant and Evangelical Church can be held, with reference to any particular subject, or to the interests of the Church in the general, according to the emergencies of the case.

5. This is the proper time to settle these questions of vital interest on a true, scriptural, and satisfactory basis, before any of these national organizations have become naturalized among us. It is our belief that the Church ought to determine how

many of these organizations the interests of our common Christianity may require, and that she ought to hold in check the disposition to an undue multiplication of outward and irresponsible agencies for doing her own appropriate work. Moreover, we hold that so many national organizations as may be deemed needful should be founded by the Church herself; and that, therefore, the different branches of the Protestant Church, which recognize each other as evangelical, ought to form an alliance for the management of these important interests. The members of these national organizations ought to be appointed by the proper authority of the respective churches, according to their several constitutional forms, and thus the whole of this difficult subject, as to how many of these societies may be needed, and as to what their powers should be, and how they should be managed, would be kept under church control.

6. The national societies which it is now attempted to organize on the New England principle, ought to be notified at once of the views of the Assembly, and they ought to be informed that any co-operation which we may extend to them will be temporary, and only continue until we are able to see the above views carried out.

All which is respectfully submitted.

A Member of Central Mississippi Presbytery.

The following paper was presented by J. T. L. Preston, and, on motion of Rev. P. T. Penick, laid on the table:

Inasmuch as the Directory for Worship of the Presbyterian Church prescribes an outline of prayer in the public worship of God, and suggests topics which are always appropriate to his people in their solemn assemblies in his house—such as Adoration, Supplication, and Penitential Confession of Sin—would it be in accordance with the principles and early usages of the Presbyterian Church, and calculated to promote the decorum and devotional character of its public service, to introduce a few scriptural and well-considered forms of prayer, requiring responses on the part of the congregation—the use of such forms to be optional on the part of pastors conducting these services.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the above subject, and to report thereon at the next meeting of the Assembly.

The report of the Committee on the Revision of the Hymn-book was taken from the docket and adopted.

The report of the *ad interim* committee on the subject of the Support of Superannuated and Disabled Ministers and the Families of Deceased Ministers, was taken from the table and

recommitted to the same committee, with instructions to report to the next Assembly.

On motion of the Rev. J. C. Alexander, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Charlotte for their very generous hospitality to this body; to the Churches of this city, for offering their respective houses of worship for our use; and to the several railroad companies for their liberal accommodation to the members of this body.

On motion of Judge Shepherd, the following persons were nominated as the Trustees of the General Assembly, and the nominations concurred in:

Thomas C. Perrin, Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D., Samuel McCorkle, Joseph H. Wilson, Jesse H. Lindsey, Robert Adger, J. A. Ansley, J. A. Crawford, James B. Walker, J. A. Inglis, John Whiting, R. M. Patten, Rev. George Howe, D.D., Rev. J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D., and W. L. Mitchell—*five* to constitute a quorum.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be now dissolved; and that another Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the City of Macon, Georgia, in the Presbyterian Church, *on the third* (3*d*) *Thursday of May*, 1865.

Closed with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

JOSEPH R. WILSON,
Permanent Clerk.

Jno. N. Waddel, *Stated Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

IN THE BOUNDS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA:—ADDRESSED TO THE CHURCHES UNDER ITS CARE.

The General Assembly, in sending forth its Narrative on the State of Religion to the churches under its care, wisheth them grace, mercy, and peace, through Jesus Christ. We find ourselves still surrounded by circumstances of unusual trial. The wave of war is rolling in its desolating fury over the land. This fearful drama, in the fourth year of its history, has opened upon us on a scale that astounds the nations. While we are sitting in solemn council, calmly considering the interests of Zion, our beloved brethren and brave countrymen are standing amid the fire and thunder of battle. One and another message has come to us from the field of deadly strife, filling our minds with the deepest solicitude, urging us to more earnest and united prayer, and inspiring us with profound gratitude to God for the repeated repulses of our insolent and cruel foe.

We had fondly hoped to be able, at this hour, to rejoice with you in the termination of a long series of hostilities, and in the return of the blessings of peace to our distracted borders; but our enemies have evinced a settled determination to prosecute their enterprises of guilt and horror, in the face of all the disastrous consequences which must ensue from this insane attempt to subjugate and destroy us. *But he that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision.* What they have meant for evil, God intends for good.

We accept this awful scourge as a wise and wholesome chastisement for our manifold sins and provocations. All the dark dispensations of God are designed to exalt the Redeemer in the eyes of an adoring universe, and to *purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works.* These severe and startling retributions have not yet reached the full measure of our iniquities —for *in righteousness he doth judge and make war.*

The Narratives of the various Presbyteries in connection

with the General Assembly are filled with facts which inspire us with sentiments of sorrow and of joy. They tell us of the terrible persecutions of our people in those parts of the country which have been visited by the invading foe—they speak in tones of sadness of many of our beautiful sanctuaries which have been converted into dens of thieves—of the exile of pastors and their flocks for conscience' sake—of the loss of large numbers of our noblest and best young men who have been slain in battle—and of the numerous households which are weeping over their martyred dead. The Assembly would assure these bereaved and suffering brethren of its warmest sympathies, and invoke for them the richest blessings of heaven.

Numbers of our churches are mourning over their spiritual declensions. Frequent violations of the Sabbath, criminal neglect of the spiritual culture of the young, deep despondency under the merited chastisements of Providence, and the abounding iniquity of extortion, are some of the evils reported and deplored. These sins, which have provoked the dreadful judgments of God, it becomes us to bewail in dust and ashes. This is not the time to palliate or conceal our personal and national offences, when the solemn providences which are occurring around us call us loudly to the foot of the throne, to deprecate the divine wrath, and to supplicate the divine favor and forgiveness.

But we have been furnished with another class of facts which are of the most refreshing and cheering character. The Bride, the Lamb's wife, still shines forth with celestial beauty and brightness in the midst of surrounding darkness. The divine life of the Church is being developed in the various ways which we will now proceed to indicate:

1. In a sincere and growing love for the pure doctrines of the Word of God. The peculiarities of the times have not tempted our ministers to yield to the seductive influences of fanaticism, nor our members to seek any new substitutes for the Gospel. *Jesus* and the *Resurrection* is the great theme of our pulpits, and the peculiar hope and consolation of our people. This increasing attachment for our divine system of doctrines and government opens up a brighter career to this branch of the great family of God.

2. The extraordinary prevalence of the spirit of prayer is another proof of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the churches. The voice of supplication, intercession, and thanksgiving is ascending to the skies as the *voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters.* These frequent and fervent prayers have been heard in heaven, and are answered in the gracious revivals which have blessed a number of our churches, and in the hopeful conversion of thousands of our brave soldiers. The wonderful work of grace in our armies presents the strongest encouragement to the praying people at home, and has placed the

seal of the divine approbation upon our righteous cause. Our hearts have been thrilled as our attention has been turned to the triumphs of the Spirit in the camp and field. We have no words to express the depth and ardor of our gratitude to God for his marvellous mercy to our country's defenders.

3. The law of Christian liberality is in healthful and vigorous operation among us. Our benevolent contributions have never been so large and cheerful. An inflated currency accounts but in part for the abundance of the gifts which have been laid on the altar of liberty and religion. The principles which underlie this department of Christian duty have been clearly developed in our church courts and pulpits, and we are reaping the glorious fruits of these divine teachings.

So long as the minds of our people are pervaded with the doctrine that alms-giving is an office of Christian worship and an evidence of personal piety, there will be no lack in the treasury of the Lord.

4. We have the most cheering accounts of a wider diffusion of the spirit of brotherly-love throughout our borders. Old divisions have been healed, and the bonds of Christian communion have been strengthened by the pressure from without. These free and beautiful expressions of Christian charity and affection are attracting the various branches of the Presbyterian family into closer relations, and are preparing the way for a more perfect union of all those of like faith and order. Under the impulse of this divine principle our people fail not to pray for their enemies—that God would convert them from the error of their ways, and lead them into the paths of righteousness and peace.

The fraternal feelings which have signalized the present sessions of the Assembly have filled our hearts with holy joy, and have served as an earnest of better things to come. We have all practically felt the force of the beautiful exclamation of the Psalmist: *Behold, how good and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.*

5. The reports of all the Presbyteries indicate an increasing interest in the spiritual welfare of our colored population. The long-continued agitations of our adversaries have wrought within us a deeper conviction of the divine appointment of domestic servitude, and have led to a clearer comprehension of the duties we owe to the African race. We hesitate not to affirm that it is the peculiar mission of the Southern Church to conserve the institution of slavery, and to make it a blessing both to master and slave.

We could not, if we would, yield up these four millions of immortal beings to the dictates of fanaticism and to the menaces of military power. We distinctly recognize the inscrutable providence which brought this benighted people into our midst, and we shall feel that we have not discharged our solemn trust

until we have used every effort to bring them under the saving influences of the Gospel of Christ.

Finally, we find no cause for discouragement, but many incentives to renewed diligence and zeal. We would, therefore, exhort our ministers and people to be up and doing, under the abundant manifestations of the presence and power of the Spirit.

Let our ministers *preach the Word, be instant in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.*

And let our people abound in faith and prayer, in liberality and holy living.

Let Zion arise and shine, and put on her beautiful garments, until her walls become salvation, and her gates praise.

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy—to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

JOHN S. WILSON, *Moderator.*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT COLUMBIA.

The Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia submits the following report on the state of the Seminary to the General Assembly:

Two meetings of the Board have been held since the last General Assembly. At the first meeting, which was held at the Seminary on the second day of September, 1863, the Board was organized by the appointment of Thomas C. Perrin, Chairman, and the Rev. Samuel H. Hay, Clerk. At this meeting by-laws were adopted, and the Investing Committees were appointed—the one for the State of Georgia consisting of J. W. Davies and George M. Thew, and the one for South Carolina, John A. Crawford and J. Leighton Wilson. The second meeting was held at the Seminary, commencing the second of May, instant, and continuing until the evening of the third. At this meeting a general investigation was made into the internal management of the Seminary, the library, buildings, laws and regulations, and the finances.

The Board regrets to have to report that, owing to the peculiar state of the country, and the need for young men in the field, the number of students has been reduced from sixty-two, the number before the commencement of the war, to seven the present year. Upon the return of peace it is hoped and believed that the former, if not an increased number of candidates

for the Gospel ministry, may be found seeking knowledge at this long-established School of the Prophets, and that the hearts of the Professors may again be gladdened by the evidences that they are again disseminating to a large number the knowledge of sound theology and Gospel truth.

Owing to the absence of two of the Professors of the Seminary, on important committees of the Assembly, the providential disability of another one, and the very small number of students in attendance, the Board concluded to dispense with the annual examination. We are unable, therefore, to make any report as to instruction or the proficiency of the students.

The Library.

But few books have been added to it the past year. It is large (consisting of about eighteen thousand volumes), well selected, is carefully kept, and is in good condition. The Board acknowledges its obligations to Dr. Howe, who has kindly consented to perform the duties of Librarian, and has given much of his time to them.

The Buildings.

These are substantially built of brick, and are ample for the accommodation of at least fifty students, and in general are in good order and condition, needing only slight repairs for their preservation.

Finances.

The financial affairs of the Seminary are in a sound state. In this respect the Seminary is in as prosperous a condition as could be desired. It is out of debt. The funds invested consist of the following:

For the South Carolina Professorship.....		$41,450	00
" Georgia	"	40,500	00
" Third	"	41,289	87
" Fourth	"	45,060	00
" Perkins'	"	39,987	50
The Perkins' fund for disabled ministers.....		10,000	00
The Perkins' fund for education of pious young men.....		10,000	00
The contingent fund.....		11,000	00
Scholarships.....		20,736	66
Whole amount of funds permanently invested		$262,024	82

The income derived from the funds invested for the professorships is ample for paying the salaries ($3,000), regularly, as they fall due. The Library fund yields an interest of $140, annually; the fund for contingent expenses yields an interest of $816, annually; and the Perkins' donations yield an annual interest of seven hundred dollars for each object of the bounty.

The interest arising from the scholarships has not been expended, so that there are now of this fund temporarily invested $8,200.

The report of your excellent Treasurer, Mr. Andrew Crawford, is herewith submitted as part of this report, which will furnish more precise and minute information upon this subject. The Treasurer and the Investing Committees have managed the pecuniary resources of the institution in a most satisfactory manner, and we tender them the thanks of the Board for their valuable services. In this connection, while the Board sympathizes with Mr. Crawford in his desire to be relieved from the burdens of his office, we, nevertheless, recommend his appointment by the Assembly.

Laws and Regulations.

The Board respectfully recommends to the Assembly some amendments to the Constitution. In the first place, attention is called to the second section and first article. It seems, from this article, that upon the appointment of new Directors the old ones go out of office before the organization. This would create a breach in the connection which would be fatal to our chartered rights. There is no provision made for the assembling of the new members, nor any time specified for the meeting. If the old Board ceases to exist upon the appointment of the new one, then there is no one authorized to call them together. The Board, therefore, recommend that this article of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

"The Board of Directors shall be annually appointed by the Assembly, in the same way as the other Executive Committees of the body, and shall meet at the Seminary on the second Tuesday in June, at eight o'clock, P. M., subsequent to their appointment; the old members shall continue in office till this organization is completed."

Amend the fourth article of second section to read as follows: "The Board, after its organization, shall meet as often as it may be called together by the chairman, or any two of its members, who are hereby empowered to convene it. Five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. It may enact by-laws for its government, the same being subject to the revisal of the General Assembly."

Amend article one, section three—the last word "them," to be superseded by "the Board."

Amend article eleven, section three. In the sentence next to the last, commencing with the third line from the last, strike out to the period, and insert, "and shall report in writing the state of the Seminary to the Assembly, and shall also submit the same to the Board before sending it up to the Assembly."

Amend the first article, fourth section, by striking out the words "of their talents, piety, and prudence."

Amend the second article, fourth section, by striking out the first sentence, and begin with "these testimonials being satisfactory, they shall be admitted," etc.

Section six seems to be a restriction on the students in their relation to Presbyteries and an infringement upon the constitutional rights of the latter, and, in the judgment of the Board, should be stricken out altogether, and it is so recommended.

The Constitution, with the By-laws, have been published in pamphlet form, under the orders of the Board, and one hundred copies thereof are herewith transmitted for the use of the members of the Assembly, and its revision of the By-laws. Two alterations in the By-laws have been made since their publication, to wit: The fourth By-law is changed so as to read, "at the meeting of the Board held just previous to the meeting of the Assembly, the following committees shall be appointed, viz." The other, under the sentence headed "Committee of Ways and Means," the word financial to be inserted before "state of the Seminary."

The Board, under the Constitution, being charged with the duty of reporting to the Assembly any Professor who shall be found incompetent to the discharge of his duties, feel that they are called upon to report that the venerable Professor of Sacred Rhetoric and Pastoral Theology has been disabled, by the hand of God, to discharge longer his duties. It is with pain, but humility, that we communicate this sad intelligence of one endeared to us by so long a continuance in office. Dr. Leland has devoted the prime of his life to the Seminary. He has, for about thirty years, filled, with distinguished ability, his professional chair. This Board sympathizes with him in the great affliction which God, in his providence, has brought upon him, and do recommend to the Assembly to appoint Dr. Leland professor *emeritus*, and that for the time being he receive the same salary as heretofore.

The Board would remind your body that the last General Assembly filled the Professorship of Didactic and Polemic Theology only until the next Assembly.

For further information as to the state of the Seminary, the Board would refer to its Minutes, which are herewith submitted to the Assembly.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. C. PERRIN, *Chairman.*

May 3, 1864.

REPORT OF THE FACULTY OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT COLUMBIA.

In presenting to the General Assembly our first annual report as a Faculty, we lament, as one of the fruits of this

cruel war, the absence of those young men who have felt themselves called to the ministry. At the commencement of these hostilities the number of our students was sixty-two. They were soon summoned from this quiet retreat to bear arms in our common defence. There have been but seven students in attendance upon our instructions during the past academic year.

IN THE SENIOR CLASS.

John S. Arbuthnot, student of the University of Louisiana, and now licentiate of the Presbytery of Charleston.

Wm. Plumer Jacobs, graduate of Charleston College, and licentiate of the Presbytery of Charleston.

IN THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Samuel Edward Chandler, candidate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

Wallace Howard Stratton, graduate of Oakland College, and candidate of the Presbytery of Charleston.

J. J. Kennedy, graduate of Davidson College, and candidate of the Presbytery of Concord.

IN THE JUNIOR CLASS.

A. W. Gaston, graduate of Emory and Henry College, Virginia, and candidate of the Presbytery of Cherokee.

R. L. Smythe, graduate of Oglethorpe University, and candidate of the Presbytery of Harmony.

These students have all been exempted from military duty: one (until the law allowing substitutes was repealed) by procuring a substitute, that he might finish his studies for the ministry; the rest on the ground of physical infirmity, or because employed as licentiates in the stated supply of some destitute church.

Of those who were our students at the commencement of the war, some have died of wounds received in battle, others are still bearing arms in defence of their country; some have been licensed by their Presbyteries, and are ministering in divine things as opportunity offers. The few who have attended upon our instructions the past year, though lacking the stimulus which larger numbers would give, have pursued their studies with commendable diligence, and two of them, Mr. J. S. Arbuthnot and Mr. Wm. P. Jacobs, have received the certificates usually given at the completion of our course.

The individual reports of the several Professors are as follows:

Department of Biblical Literature. GEORGE HOWE, D.D., Professor.

The Junior Class consisting this year but of two members, and they present only portions of the term, the full course of

instruction for the class has not been completed. The elements of the Hebrew language, the grammatical reading of the Hebrew Scriptures, and exegetical exercises in the four Gospels in Greek, have occupied their attention. The Senior and Middle Classes have been engaged in the exegetical study of the Prophecies of Zechariah and Ezekiel in Hebrew, and of the Epistle to the Hebrews in Greek. A course of lectures in Biblical Criticism has been delivered to the three classes combined.

Department of Didactic and Polemic Theology. B. M. PALMER, D.D., Provisional Professor.

"Occupying the chair of Theology only provisionally," says Dr. Palmer, "I have not felt at liberty to depart from the method of instruction pursued by my predecessor—which was to combine the two upper classes, and to carry them over the entire course in two years. During the past two sessions, these classes have been conducted, accordingly, through the whole of Theology, extending, the last year, from the beginning to the application of the scheme of Redemption. The leading text-book has been the Institutes of Calvin—the students being required to examine, in connection with it, the works of Turretin, of Principal Hill, and of Dick, and free use also of Hodge's Outline of Theology, which has been very profitable in mapping out the special topics for investigation. The manuscript lectures of Dr. Thornwell, being fortunately in my possession, have also been read to the classes, and enlarged upon in oral explanation. These, with partial lectures of my own, on topics not embraced within the scheme of Dr. Thornwell, have supplemented the course of instruction in this department.

"The lectures delivered last year, on the Evidences, have not been repeated this year, owing simply to the fact that the Junior Class has, at no period of the year, been exactly organized, and also to the fact that the only permanent member of this class has been disabled by physical infirmity from the full prosecution of his studies. No class has, however, been permitted to leave the Seminary without going carefully through this branch of theological training, and the deficiency of the past year may easily be retrieved by a combination of the classes during the next session."

Department of Ecclesiastical History and Church Polity. J. B. ADGER, D.D., Professor.

"My report this year," says Dr. Adger, "divides itself into two parts: first, of the classes; and secondly, of myself.

"First, of the classes. I would say that, though small, they have evinced, on the whole, as much interest in their studies, and have made as good proficiency, as has been usual in the more flourishing times of the institution. I have carried each of the classes over as much ground as in any preceding year, and, I hope, as thoroughly. The Junior Class has been, in fact, two

classes, though, alas! having each of them but one member. The first junior class left us for the army when he had about half completed the text-book hitherto used. The other commenced the text-book when the session was nearly half gone. But I have had the pleasure of going with him nearly as far through the course as any previous class has passed. This resulted from my doubling this year the number of meetings with the juniors. I had designed carrying them this year not only through Kurtz's Manual of Sacred History, but also through the chief parts of Killen's Ancient Church. Had a regularly organized class existed from the beginning of the term, I think this desirable end might have been attained.

"Secondly, of myself. I took counsel of the Board and of the Presbytery to which I belong, relative to the expediency of my complying with an invitation from the church of Pendleton (bereaved by the death of their pastor, Dr. McBryde) to supply them with preaching during the war. I received encouragement from both these bodies, and had also the clear sanction of my own conscience in complying with the request. I could not refuse to preach the Gospel when urged to do so, when the destitutions were so great and general, and when I was satisfied that I could do my duty to my classes in addition to this labor for the Church. I have, accordingly, been with my classes every alternate week, bringing all the recitations and lectures of my usual course for a fortnight into the compass of that week, and so carrying on my instructions as far and as thoroughly as I have ever been able to do. I am anxious to receive specific directions from the Assembly for the ensuing year, in case of the continuance of the war."

Department of Sacred Rhetoric and Pastoral Theology. A. W. Leland, D.D., Professor.

The hand of the Lord has been laid heavily upon our venerable colleague, the Rev. Dr. Leland, who has been disabled for some months past, by a sudden stroke of paralysis, from attending to his official labors. His colleagues, sympathizing deeply with him in this great affliction, have shared among themselves the duties of his chair, as far as our present circumstances have seemed to demand.

Department of Natural Science in connection with Revelation. Rev. James Woodrow, Ph.D., M.D., Perkins Professor.

"During the past academic year," Dr. Woodrow "has lectured twice a week to the Middle Class and once a week to the Senior Class. The subjects discussed before the Middle Class were: 1. The leading principles of Geology, Paleontology, and other branches of Natural History, as far as these have any real or supposed connection with Revelation. 2. A critical examination of the biblical record of creation, the introduction of death into the world, and the extent of the Noachian deluge;

and, 3. A comparison of the results reached by these independent investigations. The question of the Unity of the Human Race was discussed before the Senior Class in a similar manner."

By the authority of the Board of Directors, one wing of the seminary buildings, Law Hall, has been occupied by refugees driven from their homes by the fortunes of war; and such have been the urgent necessities of this class of sufferers, we have felt ourselves compelled to allow the occupation of other portions of the buildings not absolutely required by us.

In conclusion, we hope we shall not be regarded as transcending the bounds of propriety in offering to share among ourselves the duties of our venerable and afflicted colleague, the Professor of Sacred Rhetoric and Pastoral Theology, if the General Assembly shall so appoint.

The Faculty would further bring to the notice of the Assembly that the appointment of Dr. Palmer as Provisional Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology expires at this meeting

In behalf of the Faculty,

GEO. HOWE, *Chairman.*

Theological Seminary, Columbia, April 29, 1864.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia.

1864.	Dr.	Cr.
By balance due Treasurer, per account May 2, 1863	.....	$2,666 94
By salaries of Drs. Howe, Leland, and Adger to 1st of April, 1864	.....	7,500 00
By 5 eight per cent. Confederate Bonds, invested South Carolina Professorship	.....	2,100 00
By 13 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, invested South Carolina Professorship	.....	10,368 33
By 7 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, invested Third Professorship	.....	6,530 00
By 11 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, invested Georgia Professorship	.....	11,030 00
By 7 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, contingent fund	.....	7,000 00
By Express Company, $20 00; Prince, whitewashing, $12 00; Bill Home's work, $60 75	.....	92 75
By insurance on library and buildings, $450 00; postage and paper, $3 00	.....	453 00
By Dr. Howe for repairs, $28 29; blank book binding, $25 00	.....	53 29
By interest on Nephew scholarship carried to Education account	.....	175 00
To Miss Martha Bradley's legacy and interest	1,320 84	.....
To amount from Bull legacy account, $5,755 44; Dr. Howe for room rent, $1,376 80	7,132 24	.....
To amount received for the Thornwell house	29,050 00	.....
To dividends on 202 shares Commercial Bank, South Carolina Professorship	4,242 00	.....
To dividends on 80 shares Bank of Charleston, old, and 9 shares new, South Carolina Professorship	1,774 50	.....
To dividends on 52 shares Exchange Bank of Columbia, South Carolina Professorship	312 00	.....
To dividends on 100 shares Columbia Bridge, South Carolina Professorship	1,050 00	.....
To dividends on 5 shares Planters' Bank, Savannah, South Carolina Professorship	110 70	.....
To dividends on 26 shares Farmers' and Exchange Bank, South Carolina Professorship	61 75	.....
To interest on $2,300 00 Confederate Bonds and Scrip, 8 per cent., South Carolina Professorship	124 96	.....
To interest on $9,300 00 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, South Carolina Professorship	314 18	.....
To J. R. Wilson's bond of $2,000 00, South Carolina Professorship	140 00	.....
To dividends on 297 shares Commercial Bank, Third Professorship	6,237 00	.....
To dividends on 32 shares new stock Bank of Charleston, Third Professorship	336 00	.....
To dividends on 256 shares Bank of Camden, Third Professorship	1,536 00	.....
*To interest on 3 bonds Greenville and Columbia Railroad, 6 months, Third Professorship	52 50	.....
* To interest on 4 Bonds Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, $70 00; premiums, $9 80	79 80	.....
To interest on John and Harriet English's bond, premiums	420 00	.....
To interest on $5,500 00 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, $31 76, premiums	174 60	.....
To George M. Thew, agent, interest on Georgia premiums	2,805 16	.....
To interest on $10,000 00 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, premiums	315 19	.....
By balance due by Treasurer	.....	620 11
	$48,589 42	$48,589 42

* January interest not collected on Greenville and Columbia Railroad Bonds, or Charlotte Railroad Bonds.

Errors excepted.

ANDREW CRAWFORD, *Treasurer.*

Columbia, May 2, 1864.

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Fourth Professorship.

1864.	Dr.	Cr.
To balance due by Treasurer, per account May 2, 1863	$1,082 91	.....
To amount returned payment on Dr. Smith's bond	1,000 00	.....
To interest on the above, two years and six months	175 00	.....
To E. Anderson's note and interest, $30 00; T. C. Harrison's note and interest, $128 00	158 00	.....
To dividends 213 shares People's Bank, $4,311 00; 32 shares Bank of Georgetown, $112 00	4,423 00	.....
To dividends 254 shares Farmers' and Exchange Bank, $603 25; 15 shares Telegraph Stock, $45 00	648 25	.....
To interest on 6 City of Savannah Bonds,* $175 00; 11 Bonds State of South Carolina, $330 00	505 00	.....
To interest on 1 eight per cent. Confederate Bond, $87 79; premium on above 17 bonds, $40 49	128 19	.....
To interest on $5.500 7 per cent. Confederate Bonds, $192 50; interest on $8,000 Mobile Bonds, $320 00	512 50	.....
To premium on Coupons of City of Mobile	25 60	.....
To Bull legacy account	1,022 78	.....
By 1 eight per cent. Confederate Bond, $1,000 00, and interest, $35 54	.....	$1,035 54
By J. G. Porter, $58 31; E. M. Green, $33 32; H. E. Scott, insurance, $12 50	.....	104 13
By Dr. Palmer's salary in full to 1st of April, 1864	.....	2,750 00
By amount invested in seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	.....	7,600 00
To balance due Treasurer	1,808 44	.....
	$11,489 67	$11,489 67

*The January interest has not been collected on Bonds of City of Savannah, State of South Carolina, and City of Mobile.

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with Theological Seminary—Perkins' Professorship.

1864.	Dr.	Cr.
To balance due by Treasurer, per account May 2, 1863	$ 450 00	.....
To Judge Perkins' donation	10,000 00	.....
To interest on six per cent. Bonds exchanged for seven per cent. Bonds	412 60	.....
To interest on $30.000 00 City of Mobile Bonds,* $1.200 00; premium on Coupons, $96 00	1,296 00	.....
To interest on $10.000 00 seven per cent Confederate Bonds	350 00	.....
By Professor Woodrow's salary to 1st of April, 1864	.....	3,000 00
By amount invested in seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	.....	$10,000 00
To balance due Treasurer	491 40	.....
	$13,000 00	$13,000 00

* January interest not collected on Mobile Bonds.

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with Theological Seminary—Library Fund.

1864.	Dr.	Cr.
To amount collected by Dr. Adger, agent	$1,894 10	.....
To D. Wheeler, Mobile, Alabama, through Rev. A. A. Porter	126 00	.....
To Cheraw Church, $99 50; Concord Church, $5, through Dr. Howe	104 50	.....
To a lady, through Dr. Adger, $50; interest on $2,000 00 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, $63 52	113 52	.....
By amount invested in seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	.....	$2,000 00
By balance in hands of Treasurer	.....	238 12
	$2,238 12	$2,238 12

Errors excepted.

ANDREW CRAWFORD, *Treasurer.*

Columbia, May 2, 1864.

Statement of investments for Theological Seminary of Synod of South Carolina and Georgia. 1864.

SOUTH CAROLINA PROFESSORSHIP.

202 shares Commercial Bank of Columbia, $5,050 00; 80 shares Bank of Charleston, $8,000 00	$13,050 00
32 shares Exchange Bank of Columbia, $1,300 00; 9 shares Bank of Charleston, new, $450 00	1,750 00
26 shares Farmers and Exchange Bank of Charleston, $650 00; 100 shares Columbia Bridge, $10,000 00	10,650 00
J. R. Wilson's bond, $2,000 00; 2 Bonds Spartanburg and Union Railroad, $500 00 each—$1,000 00	3,000 00
5 shares Planters Bank of Savannah, for which I have never received a certificate	400 00
2 certificates Transfer Stock Confederate States, $100 00	200 00
5 eight per cent. Bonds, $2,100 00; 13 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, $10,300 00	12,400 00
	$41,450 00

THIRD PROFESSORSHIP.

256 shares Bank of Camden, $12,975 54; 297 shares Commercial Bank, Columbia, $8,613 00	$21,588 54
32 shares Bank of Charleston, new, $1,368 00; 32⅓ shares Farmers and Planters Bank, Baltimore, $833 33	2,201 33
4 Bonds Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, $2,000 00; 6 Bonds Greenville and Columbia Railroad, $3,000 00	5,000 00
Note of John and Harriet English	6,000 00
7 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	6,500 00
	$41,289 87

FOURTH PROFESSORSHIP.

32 shares Bank of Georgetown, $896 00; 213 shares People's Bank of Charleston, $5,609 50	6,505 50
11 Bonds State of South Carolina, $10,172 50; 6 Bonds City of Savannah, $4,325 00	14,497 50
15 shares Washington and New Orleans Telegraph, $750 00; 254 shares Farmers' and Exchange Bank of Charleston, $6,826 25	7,576 25
8 eight per cent. Bonds City of Mobile	7,981 54
1 eight per cent. Confederate Bond, $1,000 00; 8 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, $7,500 00	8,500 00
	$45,060 79

GEORGIA PROFESSORSHIP.

Reported last year by investing agents	$29,500 00
11 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds bought by Treasurer	11,000 00
	$40,500 00

PERKINS' PROFESSORSHIP.

$30,000 00 eight per cent. Bonds of City of Mobile	$29,987 50
10 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	10,000 00
	$39,987 50

LIBRARY FUND.

2 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	$2,000 00

PERKINS' FUND FOR DISABLED MINISTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

10 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	$10,000 00

PERKINS' FUND FOR EDUCATING PIOUS YOUNG MEN FOR THE MINISTRY.

10 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds	$10,000 00

CONTINGENT FUND.

7 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, $7,000 00; 4 eight per cent. Confederate Bonds, $4,000 00	$11,000 00

SCHOLARSHIPS.

50 shares Bank of South Carolina: Lanneau	$2,250 00
44 shares Union Bank of South Carolina; Congregational and Presbyterian	2,200 00
100 shares People's Bank of Charleston; Telfair Timothy	2,500 00
92 shares Commercial Bank of Columbia; Jos. Ellison	2,495 00

20 shares South Carolina Railroad and Bank; Fabien	2,500 00
Invested in Georgia, mode not known; Nephew	2,500 00
2 Bonds City of Mobile, $2,050 00; 4 Confederate States Bonds, $250 00; Douglas	2,300 00
66⅔ shares Farmers and Planters Bank of Baltimore; Blair legacy	1,666 67
33⅓ shares Farmers and Planters Bank of Baltimore, new stock	825 00
20 shares Farmers and Exchange Bank of Charleston, $500 00; 20 shares South Carolina Railroad, new, $1,000 00	1,500 00
8 seven per cent. Confederate Bonds, $8,000 00; 2 7.30 interest notes, $200 00	8,200 00
	$28,936 67

Errors excepted.

ANDREW CRAWFORD, *Treasurer.*

Columbia, S. C., May 2, 1864.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

The Publication Committee respectfully report to the General Assembly that they have endeavored faithfully to carry out the instructions of the last Assembly in regard to more extended operations, and particularly with reference to the army. All has not been accomplished which was desired; but, in consideration of the many and serious difficulties encountered, the committee feel thankful that so much has been done.

The present Secretary, after his election by the General Assembly, returned to Montgomery, Ala., the then seat of operations of the Committee of Domestic Missions, and, after winding up its business so far as his duties as its Secretary were concerned, repaired to Richmond, reaching this city about the middle of June, 1863. The Publication Committee being then engaged in removing into more commodious quarters, it was not practicable to get fairly to work before the first of July—so that the actual period of operations included in this report can not properly be considered as embracing *much over nine months*, though it ostensibly covers eleven months. The necessity for closing up the fiscal year in time to secure the data for the annual report to the Assembly, has induced the committee to fix the thirty-first day of March as the terminus of their year, and hereafter the report will cover twelve months from April 1st.

Our own Publications.

None but those actually engaged in publishing can fully appreciate the difficulties with which it is attended in the present condition of things in our Confederacy. At first our supply of type was inadequate; this we were enabled to remedy, after some months, by a further purchase, and on very favorable

terms. But the difficulties in procuring paper have been constant and most embarrassing. Applications to paper-mills in Georgia and North Carolina, as well as in Virginia, though urged in our behalf by friends in their vicinity, have often been, indeed most frequently, entirely unsuccessful; and even when this was not the case, the supplies were so limited as but partially to meet immediate wants, and then to leave us to fresh difficulties and delays. Similar embarrassments have been encountered as to press-work. Though the type was set up in our own office, we have been dependent on the power-presses of the city to do the printing, and these were often preoccupied—so that, not unfrequently, the forms have been kept standing for weeks before they could be worked off. During the sessions of Congress and of the Virginia Legislature in Richmond, these embarrassments became so great that we applied to printers in other parts of the Confederacy, but without success. The committee have done the best that was practicable in the circumstances.

The General Assembly having authorized the appointment of a Publishing Agent, the committee selected for that office Mr. Wm. D. Cooke, who had already been rendering valuable service. Mr. Cooke's practical acquaintance with both printing and binding rendered him particularly adapted to this work, and the committee consider themselves favored in securing the benefit of his experience. The superintendence of printing, the purchase of paper, getting out and mailing the *Children's Friend*, and *Soldier's Visitor*, with attendance in the Depository, and sending off the numerous parcels of books and tracts distributed, have given full employment for his time.

The subjoined report of the Publishing Agent will show the number and amount of pages of the publications, nearly all of which have been put in circulation.

Publications of the Presbyterian Publication Committee from May 1, 1863, to March 31, 1864.

No. of Tracts.	Names of Tracts.	No. of Pages.	No. of Copies	Total No. of Pages.
20	A Call to Prayer	32	6,000	192,000
21	Barry, the Soldier	4	5,000	20,000
22	Past Feeling	8	5,000	40,000
23	I Can't make Myself Different	8	5,000	40,000
24	Plain Speaking	4	5,000	20,000
25	The Wounded, or a Time to Think	4	5,000	20,000
26	Simplicity of Faith	4	5,000	20,000
27	The Tongue	12	5,000	60,000
28	Within and Without	4	5,000	20,000
29	Sir Henry Havelock	8	5,000	40,000
30	Happy Jack	3	5,000	40,000
31	The Swearer's Prayer	4	5,000	20,000
32	Poor Joseph	4	5,000	20,000
33	What Must I do to be Saved?	24	5,000	120,000
34	Be Ye also Ready	8	5,000	40,000

No. of Tracts.	Names of Tracts.	No. of Pages.	No. of Copies.	Total No. of Pages.
35	The Way to Heaven	8	5,000	40,000
36	A True Story of Lucknow	8	5,000	40,000
37	George Giles	8	5,000	40,000
38	The Dead Soldier of Bomarsund	4	4,000	16,000
39	Jesus Christ has Spoken For Me	4	4,000	16,000
40	Death of a Christian Soldier	8	5,000	40,000
41	The Way of Salvation Made Plain	8	5,000	40,000
42	Hearing or Hardening	8	5,000	40,000
43	A Mother's Prayer Answered	12	4,000	48,000
44	Often Warned	8	10,000	80,000
45	Once to Die	8	10,000	80,000
46	Sins Going Before to Judgment	12	10,000	120,000
	Total number of pages of tracts			1,312,000

Publications not numbered as Tracts.

The Christian Soldier	16	3,000	48,000
True Courage (first edition)	32	6,500	208,000
Memorial of Thornton	24	8,400	201,000
Army Hymn-book	92	15,000	1,380,000
Wee Davie	56	4,000	224,000
True Courage (second edition)	32	5,000	160,000
"Children's Friend," 148,000 copies, equal in tracts to			3,862,000
"Soldier's Visitor," 59,000 copies, equal in tracts to			3,336,750
			9,419,750
Tracts of our own publication as above			1,312,000
Whole number of pages published in eleven months			10,731,750
Tracts received from England			1,494,000
Periodicals received from England		say..	1,494,000
			13,719,750

From the foregoing it will be seen that twenty-six tracts have been issued since the last report, making the whole number now on the catalogue forty-six. This is exclusive of the publications not in tract form, of which larger editions were issued than of the tracts. The total number of pages published, including all descriptions of publications, since the last report, is ten millions seven hundred and thirty-one thousand seven hundred and fifty; but in order to attain a correct idea of the amount put in circulation, we must add to these, two million nine hundred and eighty-eight thousand pages received from the Religious Tract Society of London, to which more particular reference will be made. The total of pages from the two sources amounts to *thirteen millions seven hundred and nineteen thousand seven hundred and fifty.*

The Army Hymn-book, of which fifteen thousand have been published, is a collection of hymns adapted to use in camps and hospitals, and prepared in response to numerous calls from chaplains and others. It contains eighty-two hymns, with an appendix of six others, to which music is attached—the latter feature being added, also, to meet a demand from the army.

In addition to the tracts, the committee have been enabled to put in circulation, almost entirely in the army, *fifteen thousand four hundred and three volumes*, obtained from the Religious Tract Society of London, and from one of the former agents of the Philadelphia Board of Publication—to which a more particular reference will be made. It is proper to state that, in speaking of the foregoing as "volumes," we do not simply mean books, but all publications of larger dimensions than the ordinary tract.

The committee have every reason to believe that both the volumes and tracts have done a most important work among our soldiers. During the revivals with which it has pleased God so signally to favor our army, religious reading was sought for with an eagerness rarely paralleled, and the printed page proved a most important coadjutor of the chaplain and the missionary. Our own publications, as well as those received from abroad, have been adapted specially to the soldier—many of them being narratives, and all of them setting forth, in simple terms, the great essential truths of the Gospel.

The Soldier's Visitor.

The great demand for newspapers in the army suggested to the committee the idea of issuing a sheet in that form, containing tracts, in the hope that they would thereby secure a more general reading than in the ordinary shape. In carrying out this idea it was considered expedient to give variety, by adding other reading matter as far as space would permit; and, with these two features combined, a monthly paper, called *The Soldier's Visitor*, was commenced in August last, and has been regularly issued since—the enterprise proving in all respects highly encouraging. From all parts of the army, from officers and men, as well as chaplains, the most gratifying testimonials have been received as to the adaptation of the *Visitor* to the end in view, and the avidity with which it is sought for and read. Fifty-nine thousand copies have been distributed. The present monthly issue is about eight thousand, with the demand constantly increasing. The committee regard the publication of the *Visitor* as among the most gratifying and successful items of their work.

As the *Visitor* was primarily designed to be but another form of issuing tracts, it was thought best to circulate it in the army free of charge, and to pay its expenses from the general fund supplied by the contributions of the Church; but voluntary donations have been made specially for this purpose, sufficient nearly to defray the cost of publication.

The Children's Friend.

The circulation of *The Children's Friend*, the committee regret to say, has diminished—the present edition being not quite

eight thousand, whereas at the last report it was nearly ten thousand. This falling off, however, we are gratified to believe, does not indicate a diminished popularity of the paper, but is owing to the encroachments of the enemy upon various sections of the country from which, in the aggregate, we were receiving a large number of subscribers. Letters arriving daily, from children as well as Sabbath-school teachers, testify to the acceptability of the *Friend;* and the committee believe that if pastors and Sabbath-school teachers would exert themselves to introduce it into schools and families, the circulation could readily be doubled, notwithstanding the unfavorable times. As to its mechanical execution, the *Friend* is very far short of what it is designed to be. The absence of pictorial illustrations is a serious defect in a paper intended to attract and entertain, as well as to instruct children. This deficiency the committee endeavored to supply by procuring cuts from England, but, unhappily, these have either been captured by the enemy or are delayed, so that they have not reached us. When more auspicious times dawn upon our country, it is our expectation to be able to make the *Friend* fully equal in appearance to the most beautiful of the children's papers published elsewhere. The committee are gratified to state that the circulation of the *Friend* is not confined to our own denomination, but is also subscribed for by Episcopal, Methodist, and Baptist Sabbath-schools.

The almost entire absence of new Sabbath-school books suggested to the committee the idea of endeavoring, as far as practicable, to make *The Children's Friend* supply the deficiency, and with that view the issue has been changed to twice a month instead of once a month, as formerly.

Books of the Philadelphia Board.

In accordance with the directions of the last Assembly, the Rev. Wm. J. Keith, late agent of the Philadelphia Board of Publication in Georgia, turned over to this committee the stock of books of that Board remaining in his hands. These, at their catalogue prices, amounted to $1,700 10. A portion of this stock is still on the shelves of our Depository, but the greater part of it has been sold. It is believed that there are other agents of the same institution in different parts of the Confederacy, who have more or less of their former supplies remaining on hand, and the committee think it desirable that the General Assembly should give instructions that all such persons should transfer their books, as in the case of Mr. Keith.

Books and Tracts received from England.

In July last the committee had the pleasure of receiving about £300 worth of books and tracts from the Religious Tract Society of London, and subsequently five boxes of Bibles, Testa-

ments, and portions of Scripture, from the British and Foreign Bible Society. These were a part of the donation secured by the Rev. M. D. Hoge, D.D., during his late visit to England. The Rev. Dr. Brown, the late Secretary of Publication, to whom they were consigned, placed them in the hands of this committee as a suitable channel for their circulation. The fact that most of the funds contributed for Dr. Hoge's mission had come from Presbyterians, would have given a claim for their control; but in order to place the matter upon the fairest possible basis, the committee communicated to the other organizations for circulating army-reading an offer of a portion of these publications, together with further supplies expected, on condition that they would agree to bear a proportional share of the expenses. This proposition, however, was not accepted in any case.

These English supplies were most opportune and acceptable —coming, as they did, at a time when our own stock was very limited, and when the revivals in the army were creating a large and pressing demand for just such reading. The beauty of their typography, as well as the excellence of their substantive matter, at once rendered them extremely popular among our soldiers, and the committee could only regret that the supply was so soon exhausted. To Dr. Hoge, who served the committee without remuneration, as well as to the London Religious Tract Society, and the British and Foreign Bible Society, many thanks are due for this valuable help toward giving the Gospel to our noble troops. Officers and men alike have read these books and tracts with delight, and it is hoped many have learned from them lessons which have made them wise unto salvation.

The owners of several blockade-running vessels, and the Southern Express Company, are also entitled to thanks for the gratuitous transportation of these English contributions. The Express Company have conferred a still further favor by carrying, free of charge, all our parcels intended for distribution in the army.

Dr. Hoge also purchased for the committee, in England, a selection of children's books, designed chiefly for sale, but also for examination with a view to future republication. Many of these we shall be glad to reproduce when more auspicious times warrant our going into this department of publishing. Those offered for sale were immediately bought up.

The remarkable popularity of the English tracts among our soldiers led the committee to request the London society to forward us a reduplication of their former shipment, on condition that they would give us a credit for the same until the close of the war. By a letter recently received from the secretary of that society we are informed that the order has been filled, but that they decline to receive compensation. The amount of the grant is £100. It is to be hoped that this most acceptable dona-

tion will arrive safely, and thus renewedly furnish us the means of supplying army-reading in a more attractive garb than can now be produced in the Confederacy. This additional donation, of course, places us under fresh obligations to the kind donors beyond the seas.

Receipts and Expenditures.

By the Treasurer's report it will be seen that the receipts from all sources for the eleven months have been $51,774 30; of which $35,861 70 was contributed by churches and individuals; $9,537 05 was from sales at the Depository; $5,104 80 for subscriptions to the *Children's Friend*; and $1,053 06 was paid in by the late agents of the Philadelphia Board, being balances remaining in their hands from former sales.

The expenditures for the eleven months have been $27,239 83. The balance remaining in the treasury, including a balance of $2,467 14 from last year, is $27,001 61. This balance may be regarded as the beginning of the Depository fund, or trading capital, directed to be raised by the last Assembly, in readiness for extended operations at the earliest possible moment after the restoration of peace.

The committee, however, can not fail to express their regret, and to call the attention of the Assembly to the fact, that a large number of the churches have made no collections for this object. This neglect is not only directly at variance with the Assembly's recommendation, but is the more unaccountable when we consider the redundancy of money, the readiness of our people to respond to every reasonable call, and the circumstance that this cause, and that of the Domestic Missionary Committee, have been the only Church objects in immediate want of contributions. It is confidently believed that, had the collections been general, the amount now in the treasury would have well nigh sufficed for the permanent capital of the committee.

Of the balance on hand, $20,000, as will be seen from the Treasurer's report, has been invested in eight per cent. Confederate bonds—this being regarded as the best disposition to make of the money until it shall be required for active operations.

Visits to Synods.

In order to bring the plans and operations of the committee more fully before the Church, the Secretary visited as many of the Synods as practicable—having been present at the meetings of the Synods of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. The interest manifested in various ways in these bodies was in the highest degree gratifying.

Conclusion.

Taking into consideration the various embarrassments with

which this work has had to contend, and that it is as yet only in its infancy, the committee can not but feel that what has been done affords cheering assurance of a most important future. The Bibles, Testaments, books, tracts, and papers distributed—the millions of pages of divine truth thus sent on their holy mission through our camps and hospitals—have doubtless proved so many preachers of the Gospel to our brave soldiers, warning them of their sin and danger, pointing them to the only refuge and hope, explaining to them the way of life, comforting them in sickness, and preparing not a few of them for whatever may be God's will concerning them, whether it should be life or death. Exposed as are these hundreds of thousands of our young fellow-countrymen to the most imminent dangers—disease and battle every year hurrying hecatombs of them to the grave—their case demands all the energies the Church can put forth, appealing to her, by every means in her power, to endeavor to bring them to a saving interest in Christ. In this work, surely the press can perform an important part. The abundant leisure of camp life and the want of something to fill up the time, render a book, a tract, or a paper acceptable even to those who, when at home, seldom read at all. Doubtless many of our soldiers have read more since they have been in the army than in their entire lives before. Here, then, is a field set before the Church, in the providence of God, for using the press, of rare encouragement and importance.

But immeasurably important as are these operations for the army, in contemplating the capabilities of this organization of the Church we must look further. This distressing war must come to an end sooner or later, and when that happy consummation arrives a new and, in some respects, even wider field will be opened. Heretofore the South has been dependent on the North for its literature; but the rending of the political ties has, as we trust and believe, terminated that, with every other species of vassalage. For the future, we must look chiefly to the home product. The ample talent of our own countrymen and countrywomen must be brought under contribution, and a literature indigenous to the soil evoked. This fact invests the Committee of Publication with peculiar importance. As the organ of a leading denomination in our new-born Confederacy, much will be expected of it. The Presbyterian Church has always enjoyed the high honor of being second to none in efforts to diffuse light and knowledge, and it will not do for our Church in the Confederacy to come short of the established standard, and thus dishonor its name and its lineage. Nor need she do so; nor, we may confidently say, will she do so. With the dawn of peace, present obstructions will be removed. Overtaxed paper-mills and overburdened printing-presses will no longer be a hindrance. Access to the world's markets will

furnish material adequate to any demand; and, with the means supplied by the liberality of the Church, we shall have before us a work vast and important enough to gratify the noblest aspirations. In promoting this cause, too, we labor not merely for the present generation. We are laying the foundations of a great agency for good, which is to live and scatter abroad its beneficent fruits when we, who witness and help on its beginnings, shall have passed away from earth for ever.

By order of the committee,

JOHN LEYBURN,
Secretary of Publication.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Education Committee report to the General Assembly that they have had no candidates under their care since their appointment, the young men who are looking to the ministry being almost all in the army. The amount now in the treasury is $5,249 61. The receipts and expenditures will be seen from the Treasurer's report.

By order of the committee,

JOHN LEYBURN,
Secretary of Education.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF DOMESTIC MISSIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

The work intrusted to the Executive Committee of Domestic Missions by the last General Assembly consists of two distinct departments, viz: 1st. What relates to the work of evangelization in the frontier and more destitute portions of the country; and, 2d. What pertains to the work of evangelization in the army. It is necessary to present these separately.

The Work of Evangelization in the destitute portions of the Country.

There is but little to report in connection with this department of the work. Much of the country, formerly occupied by missionaries under the direction of this committee, has fallen

into the hands of the enemy, while with other portions it has been almost impossible to have any correspondence. Indeed, such has been the difficulty of communication that it has been impossible to ascertain how many of the missionaries reported to the last General Assembly are still in the field. The list of names handed over by the previous committee consists of twenty-four, all of whom, except one, were laboring in the States of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi. Three of these have been transferred to the army work, and one has had his commission renewed to labor in the State of Alabama. Four new missionaries have been commissioned to labor in the State of Mississippi, in the bounds of Presbyteries there, by which they were recommended. They are: Rev. Messrs. J. H. Alexander, O. H. P. Smyth, James W. Kerr, and A. H. Mecklin. The whole number now on the list is twenty-five; but how many of these are actually at work, or will have pecuniary claims upon the committee when communication is restored, it is impossible to ascertain at the present time. Nor is it possible, in the present state of the country, to enlarge this work materially. The committee, therefore, can only express the earnest hope that God will, in the exercise of His sovereign authority, soon remove all these obstructions, and restore to His people the earnestly longed for privilege of carrying the blessings of the Gospel to all the destitute portions of the country.

The Work of Evangelization in the Army.

It will be remembered that the deepest interest was felt on this subject by the last General Assembly. At that time a state of extraordinary religious interest pervaded all portions of our wide-spread armies; multitudes of our brave soldiers were inquiring what they must do to be saved; and the cry was coming up from every quarter, Send ministers to break unto us the bread of life. The churches, too, were deeply affected by this state of feeling in the army, and in various ways they manifested their readiness to sustain any scheme the Assembly might inaugurate for the purpose of imparting the word of life to our noble and self-sacrificing soldiers. The Assembly laid the task of meeting this great want upon the shoulders of the Committee of Domestic Missions. The committee, deeply impressed with a sense of their responsibility, at once addressed themselves to the work assigned them by the Assembly. They soon found, however, that there were very serious difficulties in the way of accomplishing the proposed undertaking. The number of ministers engaged in the work at the time, as missionaries or chaplains, was not only entirely too small, but they were laboring without any concert among themselves, and with little reference to the general wants of the army. Not only had the different evangelical denominations entered upon the work without any understanding with each other, but the different portions of the

same Church were acting without concert. The consequence of all this was, that while certain portions of the army were well supplied with religious instruction, other portions were left entirely destitute. It became necessary, therefore, not only that some system should be introduced by which these labors might be more equally distributed over the whole field, but some means adopted by which a much larger number of laborers could be drawn into the work. The committee could, of course, have no control over the general work, except so far as the Presbyterian Church was concerned; but it was hoped that, by introducing order and system into their own department, other denominations would be induced to follow their example, and, in this way, something like a general system would ultimately be attained. And this expectation, the committee are glad to know has, to a considerable extent, been realized.

The Appointment of Commissioners.

The Assembly itself furnished the outline of a plan for carrying on this great work, which has been found, upon experiment, to be eminently suited to the accomplishment of the proposed object. One of the principal features of that plan was the appointment of commissioners to the main divisions of the army, whose duty it would be to preach the gospel as extensively as possible; to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the spiritual wants of every portion of the field; to aid their brethren who might be found there, or might be sent, to get into positions of usefulness; to keep the Executive Committee informed of the changes in the army, and, in various other ways, co-operate with the committee in carrying out a general plan by which every portion of it might be supplied with the Word of Life. It was not intended that the commissioners should exercise any kind of ecclesiastical control over their brethren in the same field, but simply to advise and aid them to get into positions where they could be most useful, and where the general object of the undertaking could be most effectually secured. The experience of the committee fully demonstrates the wisdom of the Assembly in ordering these appointments to be made. In consequence of the studied reticence of the government in relation to the organization and disposition of the army, and the constant changes which result from shifting different portions of it from one place to another, it would be impossible for the committee, remote as it is from the centre of operations, to conduct its measures with prudence and wisdom without such agents to keep them informed of the actual state of things.

By a vote of the Assembly, Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D., was appointed Commissioner to the Army of Tennessee, and Rev. B. T. Lacy to the Army of Northern Virginia. Mr. Lacy soon found that he could not attend to the whole of the Army of Northern Virginia, and Rev. Theodorick Pryor, D.D., was ap-

pointed commissioner to the 1st corps, leaving the 2d and 3d to Mr. Lacy. At the same time, John N. Waddel, D.D., was appointed Commissioner to the Army of Mississippi; Drury Lacy, D.D., to the Army of Eastern North Carolina and Southeastern Virginia; Rev. John Douglas, to the Army of South Carolina; Rev. Rufus K. Porter, to the Army of Southern Georgia and Northern Florida; and Rev. H. M. Smith, to the Army of the trans-Mississippi department. Dr. Lacy was prevented by ill health from entering upon the duties of his office, and the army in that part of the country became so much reduced, soon after, that it did not seem necessary for any one to be appointed to take his place. Dr. Palmer, after a few months' active labor in the Army of Tennessee, was compelled, by providential circumstances, to leave his field of labor and return home. Rev. William Flinn, of the Presbytery of Hopewell, Georgia, and who had been in the service as chaplain almost from the beginning of the war, was appointed to fill the place vacated by Dr. Palmer, which he has continued to do with much acceptance since that time.

Laborers for the Summer Months.

It became evident to the committee, soon after entering upon their work, that a sufficient number of laborers could not be obtained without special effort. At the same time, the peculiar state of religious feeling in the army seemed to demand such an effort. Accordingly they issued a circular, in the form of a personal call, and addressed it to about eighty of the ministers of the Church whom they thought qualified for the work, urging them to leave their pastoral charges and spend, at least, the summer months in labors in the field. It was hoped that many of these, having learned from personal observation the actual condition and wants of the army, and having made proof of their own adaptation to the work, might remain longer. This call was responded to promptly and with unexpected heartiness. Before mid-summer sixty of these brethren were in the field, holding forth the Word of Life, and guiding anxious sinners to the Lamb of God. These labors were distributed as equally as possible over the whole field, so that there were but few of our soldiers in any part of the army that could not have access to the preached Word. In some cases these labors were postponed, and in others interrupted, by movements of the army; but an immense amount of good was effected, the extent of which can be known only from the records of Eternity. It should be recorded to the honor of the churches which were temporarily deprived of the labors of their pastors, that they not only cheerfully consented to the arrangement, but in many cases provided for the full support of their pastors while in the army. Most of these brethren spent from two to four months in this work, preaching by day and by night, conversing with

individuals in relation to the salvation of their souls, distributing the Word of Life, attending the sick and wounded, and in various other ways administering both to the spiritual and temporal welfare of the soldiers. If it were possible to quote from the letters and journals of these brethren while engaged in this work, without extending this report to an undue length, it would become abundantly manifest that this effort was not only very timely, but was followed by the happiest results. When, however, these brethren returned to their homes in the autumn, the army was left nearly as destitute as before; and it became perfectly evident to the committee and others that no effort could be relied on to supply the army which did not contemplate the permanent engagement of those who were sent to it. At the same time it was felt that, as the army would be stationary most of the winter, and our soldiers would consequently be in a more favorable condition to receive religious instruction, that a renewed effort should be made to induce a still larger number of ministers to engage permanently in the work.

Effort to get Permanent Laborers.

In view of the continued and peculiar state of things in the army, and in view of the experience which had been acquired in conducting this very important enterprise, the committee solemnly resolved, with the help of God, to try to have one chaplain or permanent missionary from our Church in every brigade throughout the Confederate Army, besides a proportionate number of laborers for the various hospitals scattered over the land. At the same time they resolved to make the effort to raise the funds necessary not only to give a full support to those who might engage as missionaries, but to supplement the salaries of all those who held commissions as chaplains, it being known that the government allowance was entirely insufficient for their support. In order to carry out this general plan, it was understood that it would require at least one hundred and twenty-five laborers, more than one-fourth of our whole ministerial force outside of the enemy's lines, and at least $8,000 per month, or something like $100,000 per annum. Having adopted this as the outline of the work that ought to be undertaken by the Church, the Secretary was requested to meet as many of the Synods as possible at their sessions in the autumn, with the view of laying this general plan before them and securing their co-operation in carrying it out. Accordingly he met successively the Synods of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, and is happy to say that they not only heartily approved of this general plan, but gave it their full support. In many cases, where the Presbyteries had previously adopted plans of their own for carrying on the work, these were given up for the more general and systematic plan inaugurated by the committee.

Under this new arrangement, commenced in the autumn, one hundred and one names have been enrolled on the list of the committee, all of whom fall under the general arrangement, and all of whom, with a few exceptions, are to receive their support, in part or in whole, from the contributions from the churches. Of this number, 21 are connected with the Synod of Virginia; 14 with the Synod of North Carolina; 17 with the Synod of South Carolina; 15 with the Synod of Georgia; 6 with the Synod of Alabama; 13 with the Synod of Mississippi; 2 with the Synod of Memphis; 1 with the Synod of Texas; 3 with the Synod of Nashville. Of the whole number, 36 are laboring in the Army of Northern Virginia; 12 in the Army of Tennessee; 9 on the coast of South Carolina; 5 in Southern Georgia and East Florida; 3 in Eastern North Carolina, and 22 in the hospitals of Virginia, Georgia, and Mississippi. Besides those acting in connection with the committee, there are thirty or more ministers of our Church holding commissions as chaplains, or supported by Presbyteries or private beneficence, making the whole number of Presbyterian ministers now in the army about 130. The committee can have no control over the location of those who hold commissions under the government; but they can arrange those who act as missionaries so as to secure, as far as possible, an equal distribution of ministerial labor throughout the whole army.

The Labors of Missionaries and Chaplains, and their Results.

It is impossible, without extending this report to an undue length, to enter upon a minute detail of the labors performed in the army, or of the results of those labors. Suffice it to say, however, that our brethren there have usually preached twice and sometimes three times on Sabbath; have lectured or held prayer-meetings almost every night of the week; have conversed daily with individuals in relation to the salvation of their souls; have organized and taught Bible-classes; have visited the sick and wounded, and have distributed testaments, hymn-books, tracts, and religious newspapers in large quantities. So that, in many portions of the army, our soldiers have received as much religious instruction as they ever enjoyed in the most favored part of their lives, if not more; and no doubt many have read more on the subject of religion than they would probably have done under any other circumstances. Our soldiers, too, have done a great deal to help forward this great and good work. In many of the brigades large sums of money have been contributed for the purpose of supplying themselves and others with religious reading. In other ways they have testified their interest in this great cause. In many parts of the army they have erected, with their own hands, temporary chapels in which they have worshipped with comfort throughout the winter. In the second and third corps of the Army of Northern Virginia alone, there have been built as many as thirty-seven of these chapels;

most of them large enough to accommodate from three hundred to five hundred hearers, and for the most of the time they have been crowded with earnest and attentive listeners to the Word.

In relation to the results of these labors, it is impossible to speak with anything like definiteness or accuracy. During the year there have been three distinct periods of special religious interest, particularly in the Armies of Northern Virginia and Tennessee. The first of these revivals occurred last spring, and progressed with great power until their religious meetings were broken up by the active operations of the armies. The second took place in the autumn, soon after the armies went into winter-quarters, and continued, with more or less interest, until mid-winter. The third is prevailing at this present writing, and is characterized by unprecedented earnestness; but how long it will continue can not be foreseen. Perhaps the whole might be regarded as one great and glorious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, interrupted here and there only to the imperfect vision of man, but united and continuous to the eye of Jehovah. The number of conversions last spring and summer was very great, but no estimate has been given that can be regarded in any other light than as an approximation. During the winter the work, though not characterized by the same intensity of feeling, has gone steadily forward, and the conversions have scarcely been fewer than in the spring and summer. Of upward of seventy reports which have recently been received at the mission rooms, there are not more than a half-dozen that have not mentioned a greater or less number of conversions in the regiments and brigades from which they have come, the number varying from eight or ten to thirty or forty. Most of our brethren have received a greater or less number of these converts to the communion of the Presbyterian Church, varying from two or three to fifteen or twenty. This work of Grace has not been less marked among the sick in the hospitals than among the soldiers in the field. Hundreds here, it is believed, in their last moments, have not only had the Saviour of mankind held up to their view, but have cordially embraced Him, and died in the full triumph of the Christian's hope. Others, while on the same beds of sickness, have given their hearts to the Saviour, and have been raised up to live, it is hoped, godly and consistent lives.

As has already been stated, it is not easy to form a very confident opinion in relation to the whole number of conversions that have taken place in the army and hospitals. The chaplains' association of the second and third corps of the Army of Northern Virginia estimate the number in those two corps alone at five thousand. The fruits here, it is probable, have been greater than in other portions of the army. The number, nevertheless, has been very great both in the army of Gen. Longstreet and that of Northern Georgia, while from the Army of Mississippi there

have been reported two hundred conversions among the soldiers and officers at one single post. Thus, by comparing the reports recently received from the hospitals and various departments of the army, it may be safely assumed that the whole number of conversions among our soldiers, during the last year, have probably exceeded twelve thousand. These are results that have filled heaven with joy, and ought to fill the hearts of God's people everywhere with the profoundest gratitude and thanksgiving. History has recorded nothing of the kind, and well may we, as a people, feel assured that God regards our cause with favor. But great and inestimable as these results are, they do not embrace all the benefits of the great enterprise in which we are engaged. Besides those numbered as converts, there are probably hundreds and thousands in the army at the present time inquiring what they must do to be saved, most of whom, it is hoped, will find their way to the foot of the cross. But there are other stand-points from which we ought to contemplate this matter. No one can think of what would have been the condition of our armies, apart from this religious interest, without the most painful reflections. Not only has vice, in all its multifarious forms, been restrained, but virtue, intelligence, sobriety, and patriotism have been so greatly promoted among our soldiers as to make them alike the terror of our enemies and the hope of their country.

The Liberality of the Churches.

The committee feel bound to record the great liberality of the churches as well as individual members of the Church in sustaining this cause. Without any appeal to their benevolence, except what was contained in a simple statement of the nature of the work undertaken and the amount of funds necessary to sustain it, the wants of the treasury have been fully met by the free-will offerings of God's people. Most of the churches, not otherwise engaged in sustaining the same great cause, have more than quadrupled their ordinary contributions to the cause of domestic missions, while they have been scarcely less liberal in providing religious reading for the soldiers, and at the same time promoting their temporal comfort. One church has contributed to this cause alone $3,195; another, $2,344; a third, $2,292; a fourth, $1,726; a fifth, $1,582; a sixth, $1,460; and a seventh, $1,457. But if the churches have been liberal, individual members of the Church have been even more so. One individual has given to this object, during the year, $3,100; another, $2,100; a third, $1,000; five have given each $500; six have given $200 each; and more than twenty have given each $100. The most munificent of all these, perhaps, was that of $500 from a young lady, who, it is understood, has little or no pecuniary resources except what she derives from teaching.

Army of the Trans-Mississippi.

In the early part of last summer a commission was made out and sent to Rev. Henry M. Smith, who was then on the western side of the Mississippi, authorizing him to organize a missionary corps for that part of the army, and raise funds in the churches for their support. The Mississippi river fell under the control of the enemy soon after, and the committee, though they have made repeated efforts, have not been able to effect any communication with Mr. Smith since that time. It is not known, therefore, whether he has received any communication from them, or whether anything has been done to secure missionary laborers for that part of the army. The object is an important and urgent one, and it may properly claim the attention of the Assembly whether a special commissioner should not be sent to co-operate with Mr. Smith in carrying this object into effect. The undertaking would be attended with considerable expense, and no doubt with some risk; but the object is so important that but little hesitation should be felt in relation either to the risk or expense.

Relative Position of Chaplains and Missionaries.

In a previous part of this report it has already been stated that the wants of the army could not be fully met by transient or temporary laborers. Much good may be effected in this way, and those brethren who may find it practicable to spend a few weeks in the army occasionally should not be discouraged from doing so. But this must be considered as merely auxiliary to what is done by permanent laborers. The army needs men who can identify themselves with it, and share with the soldiers all their hardships, their trials, and their dangers. But another question arises, whether our ministers who intend to labor permanently in the army should secure appointments from the government as chaplains, or labor simply as missionaries. There are advantages and disadvantages on either hand. By holding a commission under the government the chaplain is brought under military control, and is, to some extent, tied down in his labors to a single regiment; but, on the other hand, he is certain to obtain subsistence, and, to the extent of his salary, relieves the Church of the burthen of his support. The missionary, on the other hand, being free from all government restraint, may extend his labors over a much wider surface; but then he is liable to be cut off at any time from all means of subsistence, and thus be compelled to leave the army at a time when his services are most needed. The present plan of having part chaplains and part missionaries is, in the judgment of the committee, the best possible arrangement. If all were chaplains one would be needed for every regiment, which would require a much greater number than the Church could possibly spare. Besides which,

a large portion both of the artillery and cavalry, not being massed in regiments, so that they would be entitled to chaplains, would be left without any religious instruction whatever. The committee, by controlling the location of the missionaries, can manage to equalize these labors throughout the whole army, and in no other way can this very important object be effected.

Finances.

Allusion has already been made to the state of the treasury. The receipts from all sources, including a balance from last year's account of $9,520 60, have been $79,344 35. The expenditures have been $45,880 31—leaving on hand the sum of $33,464 04. Of this amount about $12,000 will be required to meet salaries that were due on the 1st of May, making the working balance in the hands of the Treasurer about $21,000. This amount has been invested in Confederate bonds, with the view of passing it through the existing money crisis, and will be converted into new currency as soon as the state of the market will justify the Treasurer in disposing of them.

Conclusion.

The Church has reason to be thankful to Almighty God for the abundant favor he has bestowed upon this great work. Through His favor much more has been accomplished than was expected at the beginning of the year. More than two hundred of our ministerial brethren have labored in the army, for a longer or shorter period, during the past year, and hundreds, if not thousands, of our brave soldiers have been led, through their instrumentality, to embrace the Saviour of mankind. Religious intelligence has, in various ways, been extensively diffused among our soldiers; vice, in all its varied forms, has been restrained, while virtue, temperance, and sobriety have been greatly promoted; the sick and wounded have been comforted, and the dying have been pointed to the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world. The churches at home have not only cultivated the spirit of prayer, but they have found out that it is more blessed to give than to receive; and it is hoped they have formed habits of benevolence that will never again be given up.

With this statement of facts the committee now tender to the Assembly the records of their proceedings, the funds in their hands, and all the papers pertaining to this work, with the earnest prayer that God may guide them to the adoption of such measures as will be promotive of the best interests of this great cause.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

The Executive Committee of Foreign Missions, in presenting their third annual report, would express their heartfelt gratitude to Almighty God that, while the country at large has been involved in a death-struggle for national existence, the great cause of foreign missions has not been forgotten or overlooked by his people. Though no special appeal has been made to their benevolence in connection with this cause, and no stirring tidings have come from far-off heathen lands to stimulate their zeal, their contributions, nevertheless, have continued to find their way to the treasury; and there are not wanting evidences that there are a goodly number of young persons in the bosom of the Church who not only love this great cause, but are ready to devote their lives to the promotion of it, so soon as the way shall be open for them to do so. May not this be regarded as one of those silent but sure tokens that God will not only bring us safely out of this severe conflict, but that he has a great work for the Christian people of these Confederate States to do in connection with the spread of the Gospel among the nations of the earth? So far as this great cause is concerned, the present with us is a time of partial inactivity; but let it be a time of prayer, of faith, and of longing desire to be engaged in it, and the day will soon come when we shall be permitted to sow and reap at the same time.

Southern Missionaries in Heathen Lands.

No intelligence has been received from any of our missionary brethren in foreign lands, except a single letter from Rev. Dan'l McGilvary, of the Mission to Siam, of the 23d of March, 1863. At the date of that letter Mr. McGilvary, though sympathizing deeply with the Southern Church and the Southern cause generally, was, nevertheless, greatly embarrassed as to what course he should pursue. The way was not open for him to return to this country, and if he were here, he did not suppose that he could do much to promote the cause of Foreign Missions in the present state of affairs. He did not think it advisable to attempt to establish a new and independent mission without missionary associates, nor did he see how the committee could sustain one if established in the existing state of the country. Under these circumstances, he did not feel authorized to dissolve his connection with the Board under whose auspices he was sent out. Since that time, however, the committee have been put in the control of funds in England sufficient for Mr.

McGilvary's personal support for two years or more, a longer period than the war will probably last; and they have made the proposal to guarantee his support, at his present station, or any other he might choose, with the understanding that he engage at once to place himself under the direction of the committee as soon as circumstances will allow him to do so. His reply to this letter, which is daily expected, will enable the committee to take final action in relation to the matter.

Indian Missions.

The committee have received but few letters from the missionaries in the Indian country during the year, and those few contain but little information about the progress of the Gospel. The committee learned, with pain, a few weeks since, through an indirect channel, that the Rev. John Lilley, of the Seminole Mission, and such members of his family as were with him at the time, had been carried off by Federal scouts after they had killed his son-in-law, Mr. Henry Washburn, in his yard. No explanation is given of this outrage, and no reason can be assigned unless it be that Mr. Lilley and his family were regarded as inimical to the Federal cause. The latest letter that had previously been received from Mr. Lilley was dated May 10, 1863. At that time he was quietly engaged in his work, and was not without some tokens of the divine favor. The Seminole country lies near the southern borders of Kansas; and it is probable that those who carried him off were raiders from that state. He and his family may be subjected to much harsh treatment, but they are, nevertheless, in the hands of a kind and merciful God, and the committee would bespeak for them the prayers of God's people. The Choctaw and Chickasaw countries, where the great body of our missionary brethren labor, still continue to be favored with peace and quietness. Many refugees, not only from the Cherokee country, but whites from the southern parts of Missouri, are scattered over the country, and have thus given to the missionaries an enlarged sphere of labor.

The missionaries now laboring in the Choctaw and Chickasaw countries are Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, D.D., Rev. Cyrus Byington, Rev. C. C. Copeland, Rev. Ebenezer Hotchkin, Rev. O. P. Stark, Rev. Alexander Reid, Rev. Hamilton Balentine, Miss Augusta Bradford, female teacher, all white persons; Rev. Pliny Fisk and Rev. Allen Wright, native Choctaw preachers, and Mr. Thomas Benton, native licentiate. Rev. Stephen Foreman, a native Cherokee preacher, received an appointment as Missionary to the Cherokees two years ago, but he was subsequently called to fill an important post in the government formed by Stand Watie, and nothing has been heard from him since the occupation of his country by Federal forces.

The missionaries just mentioned have been mainly employed

in preaching the Gospel during the year, but very little information has been received by the committee in relation to the results of those labors. According to the narrative of the Indian Presbytery, which was intended for the last General Assembly, but which did not reach this part of the country until mid-summer, it appears that these brethren maintain stated religious worship at thirty different places, so that the Gospel is in this way brought within the reach of the great mass both of the Choctaw and Chickasaw people. At most of these stations the attendance has been good, and at a few of them the ordinary audiences have been a good deal increased by refugees from the Cherokee country. No statistical information has been received, however, either in relation to the present number of church members or of the accessions that have been made during the year. Mr. Byington has spent a portion of time in translating the Scriptures into the Choctaw language, and also in preparing a grammar of that language, both of which will be important acquisitions to the religious and literary world, when the circumstances of the country will allow of their publication.

Very little has been done in the way of education during the year. The boarding-school buildings have been occupied for some time past as temporary barracks and hospitals for the Confederate army in that part of the country, and will no doubt continue to be used for this purpose so long as it remains there. During the last year six day-schools were kept in active operation, but it is not known that any of these are in existence at the present time, except the one taught by Miss Augusta Bradford at Goodland. The brethren regard this partial suspension of educational operations as a serious evil, but it is one they share in common with all other portions of the Confederacy, and one which we may all hope will be of only temporary duration.

The Treasurer of the mission still manages to borrow money to pay the salaries of the missionaries in exchange for drafts upon the Treasurer of the Assembly—none of which, however, except a few of small amount, have as yet been presented for payment. Most of the missionaries have little farms and other facilities for raising stock, which enable them to live comfortably without any material increase of their salaries. What amount has been drawn upon the treasury is not certainly known, but it is presumed it is not greater than can be paid when the drafts are presented.

Finances.

The receipts of the year have been $16,401 47, which, added to the balance of last year of $19,975 14, with a balance from the exchange account of $237 19, make the whole amount in the hands of the Treasurer at the present time $33,358 09, the expenditures having been $3,255 71. This amount has been invested in Confederate bonds, the interest on which will more

than pay the interest accumulating on the outstanding drafts against the treasury. The above-mentioned sum does not include the amount of $2,298 37 deposited in London to the credit of the committee, and which is pledged to the support of Mr. McGilvary, in case he accedes to the proposition made to him by the committee.

Conclusion.

The committee regret that they have so little to communicate to the Assembly in relation to the condition and progress of this very important work, but this is owing to circumstances over which they have had no control. The work, though not extensive at the beginning, has been contracted in the progress of the war, and, unless overruled by a kind and merciful providence, may become even more so. But to whatever extremities we may be reduced, this great and holy cause ought to be kept constantly before the eye of the Church. She ought never to lose sight of the important fact, that one of the great ends of her organized existence was, that she might be efficiently engaged in spreading the knowledge of the Gospel among men; and she can not overlook or neglect this important duty, even for a brief period, without dimming her own glory. Let, then, the missionary spirit be carefully cherished in the hearts of all God's people; let our children and youth be kept reminded of the solemn obligation resting upon the disciples of Jesus Christ to carry the Gospel into all parts of the world; and let us, one and all, rally around the work in which we are now engaged, contracted though it be, and it will not be long before God will open up before us a field broad enough to occupy all our energies.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 1863 TO REVIEW THE SUBJECT OF BENEFICIARY EDUCATION.

The following overture, from the Presbytery of Lexington, was considered by the last General Assembly, and its prayer for a committee to revise the subject of Beneficiary Education granted:

"In view of the doubts of many in our Church in respect to the beneficiary system of education, as provided for the ministry, and believing that such a system too long and generally pursued may attract a wrong class of candidates, with false motives and inferior qualifications, and may also repel another class (unwarrantably, it is true, but yet as the actual experience of the Church); believing, also, that in this Southern Confederacy young men of suitable gifts can, in most cases, without

injurious delay, pay their expenses in study by teaching and other useful pursuits, or by winning, in fair competition, certain bursaries or scholarships that might be provided at our seats of learning; and that in the few cases imperatively needing help, private hands or individual churches might more intelligently and watchfully bestow it; this Presbytery hereby overtures the General Assembly to appoint a committee, at its approaching sessions, to revise the whole subject of beneficiary education, and to report to the General Assembly next ensuing. Also, this Presbytery makes overture that the Church be not committed to any more permanent arrangement than now exists for the education of ministers, till this report be presented and acted upon."

The committee appointed in accordance with the petition of this overture, beg leave to report:

That we have, with honest carefulness, examined the important subject committed to our revision. In measuring the field of inquiry allotted to us, we could discover no necessity for occupying your attention with an argument in favor of an educated ministry; for there never has been a time in the history of the Presbyterian Church when there was serious difference of opinion upon this well understood point. From the earliest period of her existence she has, by every form of official action possible to such a testimony, uttered a distinct voice in behalf of the highest standard of ministerial qualification. While no Church has more strenuously insisted upon the unspeakable importance of *piety* in the pulpit, none has been more determined to possess a pulpit characterized by something more than the impatient zeal, the unguarded enthusiasm, and the heated impulses in which mere vehemence of religious emotions is so apt, when left to itself, to waste its fires—a pulpit where ardor of soul shall be tempered and directed by discipline of mind, breadth of knowledge, and accuracy of scholarship. Regarding, therefore, the conclusions of the Church touching this matter as sound and irreversible, our attention was principally fixed upon another point to which the wisdom of our denomination has been long directed, but where the decisions of that wisdom have not appeared so satisfactory to all good men. This relates to the great subject of what is styled *beneficiary* education, and particularly to the question whether that scheme of stipendiary schooling, with whose details our connection with the Presbyterian Church in the former United States has rendered us familiar, is the best one for us in our new condition as a separate ecclesiastical organization to continue.

It will be recollected that the Assembly which convened in December, 1861, in the City of Augusta, unanimously passed a series of resolutions "solemnly reaffirming the deliverances made in our former connection concerning the responsibility that rests on the Church to secure and maintain for itself a pious,

gifted, and learned ministry;" and, in conformity with this reaffirmation, appointed "an Executive Committee to aid candidates for the Gospel ministry who may need assistance," chose a "Secretary of Education," and did all other things that were required to set in motion a system whose operation might impart efficiency to this arm of the Church's usefulness. Your committee was, therefore, under the necessity of propounding to itself not simply the question, shall the scheme of beneficiary education, so long in prosperous use by the old Assembly, and so much in favor throughout the entire country—shall this be set aside for a new and altogether different plan? but, in addition, we were constrained to inquire, shall the solemn action of our own initiative Assembly, which formally contained a substantial adoption of this tried scheme, be, before three years have elapsed, and time has been allowed to test its value under changed conditions—shall this, too, be swept away to make room for the inauguration of some policy wholly foreign and novel?

The fact that our first Executive Committee of Education was suddenly arrested in their work by the paralysis of war, and compelled even to disband almost at the beginning of their career; and the additional fact that the new committee appointed in their stead have been unable, owing to the continuance of the same causes which operated at the outset, to do much more than maintain a nominal existence; this state of facts, throwing us back to the point whence the original Assembly started, would appear to offer an opportunity for reviewing the whole subject as auspicious as if nothing whatever had been done. But still that Assembly *did* act, and its action was, no doubt, as maturely considered by that body as it could have been, had it been assured beforehand that the fairest and fullest play would have been secured to its proposed policy by every favoring circumstance of peace. And your committee felt that it ought to be only under the stress of solemn convictions of duty, whose path is illuminated by light which our highest court did not possess in 1861, that its successor in 1864 shall undertake to reverse its decisions in a matter so grave and so vital, or that this report should venture to suggest any material change in a great law of the Church. The Church should be slow to alter, where alteration is not demanded by the detection of serious error or the discovery of some hitherto unsuspected truth. In permanency reposes strength. It is believed, however, that those who most desire to see the whole field of beneficiary education again explored, have difficulties to examine and to remove that lie back of every possible scheme. These difficulties attach to certain injurious consequences involved in the policy which exhibits its essential character in the use of the word "*beneficiary*." It is thought by many that there should be no ecclesiastical recognition of *indigency* in candidates for the

ministry, and that the Church has no authority to bestow *benefits* out of her meagre treasury upon aspirants to the sacred office who are too poor to help themselves. They would, therefore, disencumber the Church altogether from the charge of their maintenance, and throw this burden where (say they) it honestly belongs, *i. e.*, upon the students themselves; a measure which would necessarily revolutionize the entire subject of ministerial education as it has been heretofore understood.

Your committee are of the opinion that the confusion of thought which has resulted from the use of the term "beneficiary" as applied to the matter before us, and many of the difficulties which seem to obstruct the Church's path of duty in the premises, would be removed if a clear statement of her true relation to the candidate could be authoritatively made by the General Assembly. It seems to us to be expressed with sufficient distinctness in the following proposition—a proposition that, we feel confident, indicates the real belief of the great body of God's people touching this point. It is this: *Every candidate for the Gospel ministry does, in sundering the ties which connected him with secular avocations, so far dedicate himself to the service of God in the Church as entitles him to expect at her hands the education which he may yet need for that service; and he is, therefore, not to be regarded by the Church, or by himself, in the light of an object of charity, but as a laborer already occupying a place in the field of ministerial duty.* This statement it is not proposed to elaborate. When once announced, it immediately commends its self-evidencing truth to every thinker. It sets aside altogether the common notion that a reception of pecuniary aid, by the candidate, when such aid is administered by the authority of the Church, places the recipient in the attitude of beggary, and the giver in the attitude of benefaction—a notion cruelly unjust to the candidate, dishonoring to the Church herself, and opposed to every intelligent idea of the ministerial work which, from the first step of incipient candidacy to the last step of the preacher's finished labors, righteously demands for the spiritual workman his hire, and this, too, by the express ordinance of God.

The association of *charity* with the subject of beneficiary education is, therefore, uncalled for, and is plainly injurious to the honor of that blessed Master who will have no man whom He calls into the immediate service of His Church, and thus of Himself, become the bearer of his own charges. And so prevalent and so vicious is the habit of associating these two things together—so wide-spread is the unhappy assumption that the Church, in the relation she sustains to her candidates for the ministry, is a grand eleemosynary institution—that you find it impossible to prevent mankind from going further, and carrying forward this assumption to its logical result in the consequent belief that *all* ministerial support is, from first to last, mere ten-

der-hearted bounty, which may be withheld without sin, but which, when bestowed, entitles the bestowers to the high praise of disinterested benevolence. With this deep-seated impression in the public mind the pulpit itself has had to maintain a constant and a wasting struggle. And this struggle must continue between the *pastor's* demand for an adequate support while exclusively devoted to the full service of the Church, and the people's resistance to such a demand, until it comes to be distinctly understood that, from the very *outset* of the minister's career—from the moment when he first puts his hand to the plough in the field of *preparation*—he is a claimant, not upon the Church's generosity, but upon her *justice*, not upon her feeling of pity, but upon her sense of duty. Having given *himself* to her, does he bespeak her charity, when, with all her wealth, she could not repay his service, or with all her endowments, do without it? No; the *favored* party all along—if either may be so styled—is not he. So that every consideration, whether of gratitude to her Lord for bestowing the young man upon her, or of honesty in her treatment of him who has cheerfully acceded to this disposition of his person, by which he chooses her service in preference to all others, gives force to the proposition that he is entitled to her sympathies not only, but also to the utmost liberality of support at her hands, as well while taking the steps that may conduct him to her pulpit as during the whole period of his incumbency therein; the strength of which position will further appear when you reflect that, although God has imparted to the Church the indwelling presence of the Holy Ghost, and cheered her with the promise of glorious triumphs over every opposing kingdom, yet, in order to give her a formal completeness for her gigantic work, He has so organized her as to secure the co-operation of the principle of *self-perpetuation*—a principle which obviously lodges with her the elements of a distinct and solemn responsibility in the matter of providing, through her licensing and ordaining agency, her own ministers, down to the end of time. And the duty to provide involves the duty of making provision effective. Effective, however, it can not be, unless those candidates for the sacred office, whom the Master has called and placed in the Church's hands as a precious gift, be by her properly trained for their destined work: and, clearly, this indispensable training includes all that is ever meant by "ministerial education." She has no right, therefore, to compel or even advise the candidate to support *himself*, much less to treat him as a burden upon her charity in the event of his declining to do this. The obligation is all her own, as the benefits accruing are hers. And so she herself acknowledges, by ordaining those inexorable laws for his education, both as to its nature and its extent; a departure from which, so far from being optional with him, may debar him from all access to her pulpits. Thus binding him to her service with one hand, can she, with the other

repel him, when he demands the means of engaging himself in it? This would, indeed, be requiring brick while refusing the straw.

But if they who come to her doors, seeking entrance into the ministry, choose, or their immediate friends choose for them, to afford all needful pecuniary aid to help them onward to the period of their ordination, this is another matter. The Church may accept this assistance; but, in doing so, she is simply accepting a contribution to her treasury for which she ought to be grateful. She has no authority to *demand* it.

It is, indeed, no wonderful sacrifice for a young man to make, when, casting aside all those worldly prospects which offer to him the rewards of ambition, or wealth, or ease, in a hundred other pursuits of life, he resolves to devote his energies and his time to the service of God as a herald of salvation; and, thus resolving, seeks to prepare himself, at his own cost, for so high and so sacred a calling. Doubtless it is an honor unspeakable to be selected by the Holy Ghost to be a messenger of grace to lost men. And he who is thus distinguished, by being permitted to look forward to unusual labors and uncommon sacrifices, and it may be to pre-eminent usefulness, in the cause of Christ, may well afford to inaugurate his career by casting all his property, as he does all his talents, into the effort to prove worthy of so peculiar a distinction. But the point at issue does not lie here. It is not what the candidate may esteem as his privilege, but what the Church must regard as her duty. If he be in the condition which enables him to enjoy the luxury of offering to the Church himself not only, but himself prepared for his ordination vows, let him think it no hardship to taste the honey of such an act of dedication. But, nevertheless, if this he can not do, or if this he feels that he ought not to do, then must the Church take him up from the beginning, conduct him into her schools, and, by every means in her power, endeavor to make him a workman who will never "need to be ashamed."

We are aware, indeed, that however you may dispose of this fundamental position in a discussion of the subject of beneficiary education—even though it may readily be granted—yet objections are urged to the *existing scheme* adopted by the wisdom of the almost unanimous Church for meeting her acknowledged obligations in the premises; and on the ground of these objections, the plea for a radical change is set up with a degree of plausibility. That this system is free from difficulties no one will pretend. That it has been, and is always liable to be abused, every observing and reflecting Christian must promptly allow. But if we steadily look at some of the difficulties which have been pointed out—if we measure their true magnitudes—it will be seen that they are by no means insuperable in themselves or fatal to the system with which the Church is familiar, but that they are simply those inseparable adjuncts to it, as a

system whose working has been necessarily intrusted to the imperfection of human wisdom, and is applied to the weakness of human subjects. It may be well, however, to glance at a few of the difficulties which are said to beset this path of the Church's usefulness.

1. The objection, often urged, that a promise of support to indigent candidates is fraught with the danger of attracting men from the lower orders of society, thereby threatening the pulpit with the evils of rustic coarseness on the one hand, and, on the other, deterring men of commanding social station from seeking it, is hardly deserving of serious refutation. Under any state of things, seeing that "not many wise, not many noble are called," it must be the case that comparatively few, in affluent circumstances, would be expected to enter the ministerial ranks. *To* the poor, and, to a large extent, *by* the poor, was the Gospel ordained to be preached. But notwithstanding this, your committee are of the belief that the ministry of our Church, composed to a considerable extent of those who were once beneficiaries, has never been materially damaged by any lack of proper refinement in its incumbents. God's order is the best.

2. A more formidable objection lies against a tendency which the beneficiary scheme is said to strengthen, to induce men to aspire to the sacred office from improper motives; for its high social position; its sources of personal influence and aggrandizement; for the assurance it gives, in most cases, of a respectable living. That this tendency has, in some instances, become effect, is as undeniable as lamentable. But it is, on the other hand, historically true that the examples of genuine piety, whose prevailing inducement for seeking this holy service has been the desire to promote the glory of God rather than to aim at the prizes of worldly ambition or of mere professional emolument, are as numerous under the system in question as could be hoped for under any plan which implies the abandonment of this. The objection, therefore, presses only upon the corruption of the human heart as lying back of the whole matter, viewed in whatever aspect it may present itself.

3. A third drawback is, that it is supposed to beget a spirit of mendicity, instead of cultivating that of personal thrift and manly independence. This may be said to be practically counteracted by the fact that no candidate has ever yet been supported from the treasury of the Church to such an extent as to remove all care from his mind touching his daily sustenance. We, however, believe that, as a general thing, our candidates have not been liberally enough supplied with pecuniary help; and that, whenever the feeling of mendicity has humbled their honest pride, this has been due, not to the aids they have received, but to the spirit in which the stinted allowances have too often been extended. Spirited young men have been made to experience the emotions of a beggar, because the hand which

doled out to them their pittance has been that of a lordly benefactor. But let this notion be once removed from the mind of the Church; let it be well understood that her candidates are not her debtors but her creditors; that they are receiving simply what is their *due*, not what is their need in distress; and, in no case, will they sink beneath the consciousness of shame, but will hold up their heads in the consciousness of unabashed self-respect. The same result, indeed, might be reached (it is contended) by driving these men from the doors of the Church, with the haughty command to do the double work of elevating their characters and providing for their own education, by employing themselves in teaching or some other useful pursuit, or by stripping themselves for winning, in the arena of scholarly conflict, those bursaries which have been provided for the ambitious victors. But to say nothing more as to the want of *right* in the Church thus to treat her future ministers, such a plan is surrounded with formidable impediments on the ground of simple expediency. Experience shows that those students who, in order to secure a livelihood which shall maintain them throughout their course of preparation for the pastoral office, seek to devote their energies to teaching or to mechanical labor, do, in a majority of cases, waste, in harassing efforts to obtain a support, that precious time which would otherwise be far more profitably employed in direct and consecutive study. Thus their education is delayed, unless they meanwhile study privately; and if this be done, their training is fragmentary, imperfect, and in many ways damaging to their future usefulness. Or if they find, as has so often been the case, that they and theirs can be more easily supported by the methods they have been forced to adopt by a parsimonious Church, they, by and by, resist the gradually enfeebled call which once had stirred their souls, and fail to enter the ministry at all. And as to bursaries or scholarships to be contended for as the reward of talent, these do not exist to any extent; and if they did, they would necessarily be open to all students, religious and irreligious, and to those seeking the several professions alike. By means of such a plan, therefore, if brought into being, we might secure a talented ministry, but it would be an insignificantly small one. And besides, God under no dispensation has called only those of high intellectual gifts—men of commanding genius—to the ministry; while yet there has been a place for every one who was divinely called, where he might be useful, whether great or small in the order of his native abilities. To the reply, however, that the scholarships in question might easily be increased in number, by the use of those moneys which are now expended in beneficiary education, and might also be confined in their destination to candidates for the ministry—the obvious and crushing rejoinder is, that thus there would be lodged in the very bosom of the Church a source of evil, from whose baleful presence must necessarily issue ambitions, envies, jealousies, to poison

the fountain of ministerial character and jeopard the dearest interests of Zion. For, in the emulation of an excited contest for precedence, the contesting candidates would experience every influence which fosters pride; and, after a generation or two, the fatal effects would be witnessed in the disorders of a torn Church, where the humility of John has given place to the vainglory of Diotrephes.

Still other objections to the present scheme of beneficiary education exist, and are urged. But it would not be possible to discuss them all in a document like this, which can serve only as an introduction into a field which is capable of the widest exploration. But we believe, that however far such exploration might be conducted, at each successive step friends of the existing plan would find new cause for admiring the wisdom which devised it, for applying themselves to the effort to perfect it, and (while praising the Head of the Church for the eminency of its past success) for exerting every appliance of spiritual foresight to expand its usefulness.

We can see, then, no cause for alarm in the proper administration of this scheme, in any evil influence it may exert upon the *beneficiary*, provided care be taken to instruct him in his true position as such; nor in any wrong it can do the *Church*, provided care be taken to place her upon the true ground of unencumbered and absolute duty in the premises.

Without opening, therefore, any other door through which to enter upon views of this subject that may serve to exhaust it, without attempting an argument with reference to the extent of mental and moral training that ought to be insisted on in every case, or an argument in favor of adopting some new plan for multiplying the number of ministers beyond any past experience in the Presbyterian Church, or without engaging in any historical investigation touching the abuses into which the existing scheme of ministerial education is likely to launch; even without suggestions of certain manifest improvements in this scheme, the details of whose management had better be left to the future action of the committee and the Assembly; we close by recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That, in the judgment of this General Assembly, it is the duty of the Church to pray unceasingly to her Head for a large increase of candidates for the Gospel ministry; and when they are received at His hands, it is her further duty to provide them with a suitable education in the way of preparing them for their work; and to provide it, *not as a matter of charity, but of justice to all the parties concerned.*

Resolved, 2. That this Assembly can discover no sufficient reason for superseding, at this time, the organization of the Executive Committee of Education.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH R. WILSON, *Chairman.*

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